





## Turkish Kurd party hit by bomb after congress

ANKARA (R) — A Kurdish activist party in Turkey said on Tuesday its offices in the western port city of Izmir were damaged by a small bomb in the wake of a party congress which enraged authorities.

"Two people, thought to be men, threw a small bomb at our headquarters," People's Democracy Party (HADEP) Izmir official Gungor Soydevli told Reuters by telephone.

She said one person was slightly injured and a small amount of damage was caused in the attack on Monday afternoon.

The incident followed an attack on Monday by unknown assailants who shot dead three HADEP members as they returned by car from the party's annual congress in Ankara.

A group of between eight and 10 attackers firing automatic weapons ambushed their car on a road near Kayseri, in central Turkey, local gendarmes said. One passenger was wounded.

HADEP's congress ended early on Monday with the detention of its leader Murat Bozlak and about 30 aides, after masked youths tore

down a large Turkish flag at the meeting.

Ankara provincial chairman Kemal Okutan said the party was unable to make contact with the detained officials.

"They may be held in the police station for a week or 10 days. No-one here has been able to speak to them, not even their lawyers," Mr. Okutan told Reuters.

Turkey's political establishment slammed HADEP for the rowdy congress. Participants replaced the Turkish flag with a banner of the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) rebel group and a poster of PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan. Hundreds of people chanted pro-rebel slogans.

The detained officials were being questioned on charges of "separatism" and "insulting the Turkish flag".

The man believed to have lowered the flag and an accomplice have been detained, the state-run Anatolian News Agency quoted police as saying.

It said police identified the suspect Omer Doyuran and his alleged accomplice Resit Pinc from film of the congress.

## Symposium holds panel on Palestine question

NEW YORK (UNIS) — The policies of the new, more hardline Israeli government, if implemented, could have a detrimental effect on the peace process, Nasser Al Kidwa, observer for Palestine said this morning, as the annual North American Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) symposium on the question of Palestine began its three day session.

The Israeli prime minister's new guidelines would make it impossible for peace to survive in the Middle East, Mr. Kidwa said. Israel must continue returning land for peace, abiding by its commitments to the Palestinian side, and implementing agreements already signed in good faith. The Palestinian Authority would not accept any retreat. Attempts to build settlements or to retreat from agreed commitments could have devastating effects.

Opening the session, the chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Ibra Deguene Ka (Semega) expressed confidence that the new Israeli government would continue to pursue peace and abide by agreements already reached. The

symposium's programme would promote networking and action on important issues. Its workshops would provide a venue to develop programmes, guide future work and help Palestinian non-governmental organisations.

The chairman of the North American Coordinating Committee for NGOs on the question of Palestine, Larry Ekin, said those organisations would be examining their relationship with the United Nations and discussing whether relevant Security Council resolutions and United Nations mechanisms provided the most appropriate framework for their work.

The symposium is meeting this year on the theme, "Towards a just and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine."

Following the opening statement, presentations were made on the theme, "Self-determination, State building — opportunities and obstacles."

Addressing that question were the director of the Bisan Centre for Research and Development, Ramallah; a member of the Palestinian Council, Jerusalem District; and the chairman of the North American Coordinating Committee.

### FIREWORKS

Italian fireworks light up Jerusalem's Old City walls Monday night as the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra conducted by the French conductor Michel Le Grand plays during the fireworks extravaganza which cost \$500,000. Some 6,000 kilograms of fireworks exploded over the walls of the Old City including the Citadel by Jaffa Gate. (left) (Reuters photo)

## Dole backs Israel whatever it decides on Arab states

NEW YORK (R) — Republican presidential aspirant Bob Dole gave strong backing on Monday to new Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about whatever decision he makes on negotiations with Arab countries.

At a political reception saluting New York Governor George Pataki's birthday, Mr. Dole said: "Israel must make its own decisions when it comes to peace and security."

To applause among those in the audience including orthodox Jews, Mr. Dole added: "They must make their own decisions and when the new prime minister comes to New York in July, I hope to be able to visit with him. And we will back him if they make the decisions about their peace and their security."

## French arms sales rose in '95; Mideast tops list

PARIS (R) — French arms exports rose last year, over 1994, boosted by Middle East orders for frigates and fast patrol boats, the arms procurement office said on Monday.

Military export sales last year rose to 33.5 billion francs (\$6.7 billion) from 31.7 billion (\$6.34 billion) in 1994, with sales to the Middle East and North Africa accounting for 73 per cent of all sales, up from 55, the Delegation Generale pour l'Armement (DGA) said in a statement.

The bulk of 1995 sales was made up of Saudi Arabia's confirmation of an order for two anti-aircraft frigates worth \$3.6 billion under the "Savari 2" contract with prime contractor Thomson-CSF. Kuwait also ordered fast patrol boats armed with missiles.

make no mistake about it." Mr. Dole had been a strong supporter of Israel before retiring from congress as senate majority leader.

The election of the right-wing Mr. Netanyahu last month has threatened to halt in its tracks and even roll back the peace process which the administration of President Bill Clinton has been pushing for more than three years.

Although Mr. Netanyahu has said he is willing to negotiate with the Arabs without preconditions, his policy statements have implicitly rejected the "land-for-peace" approach favoured by the United States. They have opposed returning the Golan Heights to Syria or allowing a Palestinian state.

The Western European and North American market, in second place, accounted for 14.8 per cent of sales, down from 16. Sales in Asia and the Pacific dived to seven per cent from 23, while South America took 2.7 per cent compared to 1.3. Sub-Saharan Africa took 0.9 per cent of sales, down from two. Naval sales accounted for 69.3 per cent of the total, double the 32.5 in 1994, while aerospace deals fell to 20 per cent from 44. Land equipment also halved to 10.6 per cent from 23.5. French companies delivered 19 billion francs (\$3.8 billion) worth of defence equipment in 1995, up from 16.8 billion (\$3.4 billion). Firms are paid a deposit on sale orders and receive the balance on delivery.

## New programme aims at environment protection

GENEVA (Special) — The DELTA programme — aimed at Developing Environmental Leadership Towards Action — is a major initiative being launched in the Middle East and Mediterranean Basin under the leadership of the International Academy of the Environment and Sustainable Business Associates to actively engage business and industry in improving their economic and environmental performance.

Through workshops planned throughout 1996-1998 in the Near East, North Africa, the Gulf states, and southern Europe, DELTA will mobilise a broad range of actions on the part of local business and industry and stimulate collaboration across countries in tackling the region's environmental challenges.

The programme will kick off in Amman with the DELTA Near East workshop, which will take place 13-16 Sept. 1996 under the patronage of HRH Crown Prince Hassan. This workshop will bring together a core of 75 chief executive officers and

managing directors of leading industries and public enterprises in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the West Bank/Gaza, who are interested in learning how environmental leadership can enhance competitiveness, open new market opportunities, and avoid emerging business risks.

The DELTA near East workshop will give participants:

— A broad perspective on the latest international and regional developments that are making environmental leadership a new factor for competitiveness.

— An understanding of how the principles of "eco-efficiency" can enhance business performance

— Information about the criteria for identifying sustainable investment projects that engage the private sector as partners, investors, and managers

— An opportunity to meet with key institutions representing sources of cleaner technology, know-how, finance, and capacity-building.

## Bofors accused of illegally selling weapons to Bahrain

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Swedish munitions manufacturer Bofors broke Swedish law and sold weapons components to Bahrain, a weapons export researcher for the Swedish peace organisation (Svenska Freds) alleged on Monday.

In an article in the Swedish daily, Dagens Nyheter on Monday, researcher Henrik Westander alleged that "the Strategic Products Inspection (SPI) failed to classify a number of components that Bofors delivered to Bahrain without permission." Swedish law forbids the sales of weapons to the Middle East

which is considered here to be a region of conflict.

Bofors neither confirmed nor denied the report on Monday.

At the request of Swedish customs, the ISP is now to hold an extraordinary meeting in July in order to determine if the components for 57-mm light flares and light-flare launchers are considered to be munitions or civil material.

Flares are used to light up an area for night warfare. Bofors had initially delivered the launchers to Bahrain in 1983 after the Swedish munitions inspection had classified them as civil material.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Japan extends operation on Golan

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan on Tuesday decided to extend its U.N. peacekeeping mission on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights by six months to the end of February next year, government officials said. Japan decided last August to take part in the Damascus-based U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights, after a year-long debate over the move. About 50 peacekeepers from the Japanese self-defence forces in February replaced a Canadian unit carrying out transport duties in the 1,000-strong U.N. force deployed on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. Japan's constitution bans the use of military forces to settle international disputes. But new laws passed in 1992 allow Tokyo to send soldiers on peacekeeping missions in disputed areas on condition that ceasefires are in place.

### Oufkir family members flee Morocco

PARIS (AFP) — Three members of the family of the late Moroccan Defence Minister General Mohammed Oufkir fled Morocco last week, informed sources said Tuesday. Oufkir, regarded as King Hassan II's right-hand man, died in 1972 in mysterious circumstances following a failed coup against the monarch. The three, one of Oufkir's daughters Maria, 34, a cousin Achoua Chenna, and a three-year-old adopted boy, Mikael, left Morocco by sea and are currently in Spain on their way to Paris, the sources said. According to Maria Oufkir, the three had been "banned from leaving the country." Oufkir was officially stated to have committed suicide in the wake of the coup and was accused of treason. His widow and their six children were held without charge or trial for nearly 19 years in what Amnesty International said were "very harsh conditions" before being freed under international pressure in 1991. But they were never given permission to leave the country.

### 2 airlines suspend flights to Bahrain

MANAMA (AFP) — Royal Brunei and the German Airline Lufthansa are suspending passenger flights to Bahrain later this year, company officials said Tuesday. Lufthansa will stop services indefinitely to Bahrain from Oct. 27 after its decision to sell two Airbus aircraft as part of its economic restructuring. Lufthansa manager for Bahrain and Qatar Tobias Ernst said. The airline has also decided to reduce the number of flights operating to Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, and Karachi, Pakistan, due to the shortage of aircraft, he added. An employee at Royal Brunei's office in Dubai said his company would temporarily suspend its operations from Sept. 10 for "technical reasons," but did not say when they would resume. Lufthansa cargo operations to Bahrain will be maintained, Mr. Ernst said.

### Confiscated boat sold in auction

HANOI (AFP) — A Turkish boat confiscated by Vietnamese authorities over a breach of contract between the owners and crew has been sold at auction for nearly \$1 million, it was reported Tuesday. The Asena-1, owned by the Turkish company Koray Shipping, Incorporation, was ordered sold by the economic tribunal of Quang Nam-Danang province, in central Vietnam, the newspaper Thanh Nien reported. It was confiscated in March, seven months after it was refused permission to unload its cargo of cement because of the vessel's poor condition. The owners then refused to pay the crew's wages. The buyer was a Ho Chi Minh City Mekong River Transport Company, the paper said.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

15:00 .....The Flintstones  
15:45 Bill Nye the Science Guy  
16:20 .....Kelly  
17:00 .....News Flash  
17:02 Children's Programme  
— Les Pollards  
17:30 .....Serie — Simonen  
18:00 European Championship  
19:00 .....Le Journal  
19:15 Magazine Sports Et Musique  
20:10 .....Drama — Chancer  
21:10 .....Drama — Hunter  
22:00 .....News in English  
22:25 .....The Bold and Beautiful  
23:10 .....Airwolf

### PRAYER TIMES

03:52 .....Fajr  
05:27 .....(Sunrise)  
Duha  
12:38 .....Dhuhr  
16:18 .....Asr  
19:49 .....Maghreb  
21:25 .....Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifflah, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church Tel. 632785.  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.

Terra Sancta Church Tel. 622366

Anglican Church Tel. 652826.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church Tel. 652526

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328.

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 845457

The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932.

Church of Nazarene Tel. 675691.

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

English-speaking Latin Catholics Parish Tel. 614190.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A heat wave is expected to affect the Kingdom for three days, so relative hot weather conditions will prevail with temperatures above average and winds easterly/moderate.

In Aqaba, it will be hot and dusty, winds northerly/moderate to active, and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. Amman .....21/27 Aqaba

Deserts .....25/42

Jordan .....20/39

Valley .....24/41

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 36, Aqaba 40 Humidity readings: Amman 21 per cent, Aqaba 22 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

Dr. Hanna Mansour .....798863

Dr. Afif Shukri .....988863

Dr. Nidal Al Dahleh .....827195

Dr. Sa'id Tawq .....788285

Firas pharmacy .....661912

Ferdows pharmacy .....778336

Al Asema pharmacy .....637055

Al Salam pharmacy .....636730

Yacoub pharmacy .....644945

Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

Nairoukh pharmacy .....623672

Najib pharmacy .....847632

Dr. Ghazi Ta'anneh .....250080

Al Quds pharmacy .....(—)

ZARQA: Dr. Hilal Al Sayyid .....986702

Khalifeh pharmacy .....985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade .....617101

Blood Bank .....775121

Highway Police .....843402

Traffic Police .....896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints .....605800

Price Complaints .....661176

Water and Sewerage Complaints .....897467

Amman Municipality Complaints .....787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) .....121

Overseas Calls .....010230

Central Amman Telephone Repairs .....623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television .....773111

Radio Jordan .....774111

Water Authority .....680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 08-

53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 81381/332

Khalidi Maternity, 644281/6

Akileh Maternity, 642441/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malhas, J. Amman .....636140

Palestine, Shmeisani 607071

Shmeisani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Muasher Hospital 6672719

The Islamic, Abdali 666126/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali .....664164/6

Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3

Al-Bashir, .....775111/26

Army, Marka .....891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital .....674155

The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 865199

ZARQA: ZARQA Govt. Hospital (09)983323

ZARQA National Hospital (09)900560

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990

IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275

Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100

AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200 where it should always be verified.

Information on other flights are supplied on phone 08 (52700) or 08(53250).

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

08:00 .....Damascus (RJ)

09:30 .....Jeddah (RJ)

09:55 .....Larnaca (RJ)

10:40 .....Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

10:50 .....Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

15:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

17:30 .....Toronto, Montreal (RJ)

12:00 .....Berlin, London (RJ)

12:10 .....Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

12:30 .....Rome (RJ)

12:45 .....Istanbul (RJ)

20:20 .....Colombo (RJ)

21:10 .....Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)

21:10 .....Cairo (RJ)

21:15 .....Beirut (RJ)

21:20 .....New Delhi (RJ)

21:30 .....Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)

22:15 .....Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

23:45 .....Sanaa (RJ)

01:30 .....Sanaa (RJ)

12:00 .....Jeddah (SV)

13:00 .....Karachi, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

13:15 .....Cairo (RJ)

13:40 .....Abu Dhabi (CF)

14:30 .....Tunis (TU)

16:20 .....Algiers (AH)

19:00 .....Dubai (EK)

20:40 London, Beirut (BA)

21:10 .....Beirut (ME)

22:35 .....Larnaca (CY)

23:20 .....Amsterdam (KL)

23:30 .....Athens (OA



## ation on Golan

Tuesday decided to... on the Israeli-occupied... to the end of February... said, Japan decided... (UNDOF) on the Golan... the move. The... Japanese self-defence... unit carrying out... U.N. force deployed... to settle international... in 1992 allow Tokyo to... in place.

## bers flee Morocco

bers of the family of... General Mohammed... sources said Tuesday... It's right-hand... circumstances follow... The three... a cousin Achour... boy, Mikael, left... Spain on their way to... Maria Oufkir, the... the country. Oufkir... suicide in the wa... of treason. His widow... without charge or... International said... before being freed in... 1991. But they were... country.

## ights to Bahrain

Brunei and the German... passenger flight... officials said Tuesday... to Bahrain... self two Airbus... turning. Lufthansa... Ernst said. The... number of flights... United Arab Emirates... he shortage of aircraft... Brunei's office in... temporarily suspend... technical reasons," but... Lufthansa cargo... stated, Mr. Ernst said.

## ld in auction

h boat confiscated by... of contract between... old at auction for... day. The Asena-L... Shipping Incorporation... of Quang... of Vietnam the... confiscated in March... permission to... the vessel's poor condition... pay the crew's wages... Mekong River.

## is to Bahrain

munitions, thereby... their sale to the... illegal by Swedish... classification is... from January 1993... According to... Fredrik, Bolov... Bahrain took place... Bolovs information... Anders... "The order was... in 1992, in accordance... the Swedish law... However, there... articles that we could... vide at that time... were delivered in July... was a routine delivery... close to the production... Forensics said.

12:00	Hebron	Le
(RJ)		
12:10	Tunis	Casablanca
12:30		
(RJ)		
12:45	Jordan	Cairo
20:20		
21:10	Eden	Phuket
21:10		
21:15	New Delhi	
21:20		
21:30	Calcutta	Bangkok
22:15		
(RJ)		
23:45		
(RJ)		
01:30		
(RJ)		

Other Flights	Amsterdam
04:00	Beirut
08:45	London
09:15	Saudi
13:00	Amman
13:45	Abu Dhabi
14:15	
(PK)	
14:15	
(MS)	
14:40	Doha
15:30	Shanghai
17:20	Taipei
20:00	Luxembourg
23:30	Amsterdam
00:20	Amman
04:00	Beirut
07:45	London

Royal Wings (RW) Flyer  
20:30 Amman (JAL) Flyer

## Kabariti visits interior ministry, PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti Tuesday visited the Ministry of Interior and listened to a briefing by Minister Awad Khleifat on reorganisation plans.

Dr. Khleifat also outlined the ministry's direct relations with the Public Security Department (PSD) and the Civil Defence Department (CDD) whose work is directly related to the ministry.

Later Mr. Kabariti called on PSD Director General Nasouh Mubeiddin and together they inspected a collection of artifacts seized by the police in illicit sales and smuggling operations.

The Prime Minister also visited the anti-narcotics division where he was briefed on drug trafficking cases and inspected some of the drugs seized from smugglers.



Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti and Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Nasouh Mubeiddin Tuesday inspect artifacts confiscated in illicit sales and smuggling operations (Petra photo)

## Woman commits suicide; children say father was abusive

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 35-year-old woman from the Jofeh area in South Shouneh committed suicide Monday, following an argument with her husband, according to official sources.

Amneh Ibrahim, died in her house after she poured kerosene on her clothes and set herself on fire, the source said.

The victim's children were the first to find their mother's body which was, according to the source, burnt beyond recognition.

The victim's siblings told the authorities that their sister might have committed suicide because she was complaining all the time that her husband was abusing her, the source said.

Amneh was constantly being beaten by her husband, and he used to insult her all the time, the source said quoting family members.

According to the source, the victim's teenage children testified that their mother was often bullied and beaten by their father.

## Task force nears completion of archaeological protection plans

AMMAN (Petra) — A national task force entrusted with providing protection to the archaeological site of Petra has nearly completed its workplan which was funded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at a cost of \$39,000, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzak Tubeishat.

Speaking during a visit to the ministry by Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, the minister said that the task force is preparing a plan for the restoration of the Nabataean site and its surrounding environment and the effect on tourism on the ancient city in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

The question of protecting the environment should assume priority at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs which should be organising public awareness campaigns in this respect, said Prince Raad, who chairs the Petra National Trust, a non-profit organisation concerned with the preservation of this national heritage site.

The question of protecting the environment is highly important because it is directly connected with people's safety, and preventing pollution is equally important in ensuring a successful tourism industry in Jordan, added Prince Raad.

Earlier Dr. Tubeishat chaired a meeting in Irbid to discuss the greater Irbid city project and told an audience that the plan aims at achieving qualitative advances in the socio-economic condition of the citizens there.

Plans for this project seek to enable the municipality to expand and improve services, collect sufficient revenues to cover the cost of its projects and prevent any infringements on state-owned land.

Former Minister of Agriculture Muhammad Alawneh demanded that before the implementation of the Greater Irbid project, the concerned authorities determine the various uses of lands so that the project would not adversely affect the agricultural areas through urban construction.

Irbid Deputy and former Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh told the meeting that Irbid currently suffers from random and ill-planned construction projects while the municipality is incapable of meeting its commitments.

## Minister pledges continued support to Palestinian education

Arab educationists begin network

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Abdullah Ensour Tuesday voiced Jordan's determination to continue its support for the Palestinian people on the political, economic and educational levels and to help them achieve freedom and independence.

In an address at the opening session of a two-day meeting dedicated to discussing the establishment of an Arab network for open education and distance education (correspondence education), Dr. Ensour said the Palestinian people require continued aid and support from all parties and countries noting that Jordan hosts a great number of national Palestinian institutions including a liaison office for the Al Quds Open University which provides education to Palestinians.

Welcoming the delegates representing 12 Arab countries and regional and international organisations, the minister said he hoped that the meeting will conclude with final arrangements for the establishment of the Arab network.

The meeting is co-chaired by Palestinian Minister of Higher Education Hanan Ashrawi who stressed that distance education is expected to play a key role in promoting social and economic conditions in the Arab World, adding that distance education offers the



Abdullah Ensour

opportunity to all people to acquire higher education without limitations or discrimination.

Voicing appreciation to Jordan for hosting the meeting Dr. Ashrawi said that Al Quds Open University first started in Jordan because of the very strong brotherly relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian people.

Al Quds Open University President Sufian Kamal told the meeting that the open education systems which started five decades ago were deemed necessary to provide higher education to greater numbers of "education-hungry people" in a world that is continuing to witness high rates of population growth. He added that distance education would be the most convenient system for various countries to satisfy that need in the coming century.

The meeting has been organised by Al Quds Open University in cooperation with the regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

## Jordan, Israel to put transport agreement into action today

AMMAN (J.T.) — In implementation of a Jordanian-Israeli transport agreement signed in January trucks from both countries today will start transporting goods across the Jordan River via the Sheikh Hussein border crossing point in the north and through the southern crossing near Aqaba, according to an announcement Tuesday by Minister of Transport Nasser Lawzi.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister said that the two sides Monday conducted an experiment on the transportation process and finalised arrangements for the start of overland transport with the participation of all concerned customs, police and transport departments as well as representatives of the private transport sector.

Transporting goods by trucks into either side assumes a considerable importance because it marks the effective start of goods exchanges between Jordan and Israel, Mr. Lawzi said.

He said goods such as cement, fuel and agricultural products, especially those imported or exported through Israel's Haifa seaport, would be allowed to be transported on either Israeli and Jordanian trucks, but Jordanian goods heading for Israel only will have to be unloaded at the border area and then reloaded onto Israeli trucks to complete the trip inside Israel.

According to the minister, no limit has been set so far

## Intelligence department officers testify to attack on security facility

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Five prosecution witnesses Tuesday testified at the State Security Court in the case of six men accused of attacking the office of the Central Intelligence Department (CID) at Baqaa refugee camp in December 1994.

Five of the defendants are charged with assault on a government office with the intent to hinder the CID from exercising its constitutional duties, as well as with distributing pamphlets slandering His Majesty King Hussein.

Sergeant Mohammad Ali Awad, 31, of the Baqaa CID, told the court that on the night of the incident he was sitting in a caravan (mobile office) with his fellow officers when a rock was thrown into the caravan.

The mobile office was being used while a permanent building was being constructed to house the CID office in that area.

"I went to check the matter and as soon as I reached the door I heard gunshots and I was hit in the thigh by a bullet and fell backwards," Sgt. Awad said.

He added that as he lay wounded he saw bullets soaring over his head.

Sgt. Hussein Abdul Fatah said he was also in the caravan when the shooting occurred. He said he grabbed a machine gun, went outside and fired 20 rounds in the direction the gunshots were coming from.

"After I fired from my machine gun, the shooting stopped, then I heard one shot fired, which I assumed was a sign between the attackers to withdraw," he said.

The witnesses said the assault lasted almost five minutes and that after searching the area, CID officers retrieved 20 spent shells from a school yard next to the CID building under construction.

When questioned by the court tribunal, none of the five witnesses said they got a look at the perpetrators.

The prosecution had charged that the defendants went to Baqaa camp on the night of Dec. 26, 1994 and showered the CID caravan with bullets from a machine gun, injuring one CID officer before fleeing the scene.

It also charged that the defendants conducted the attack to avenge the arrest, three days before the incident, of the sixth suspect, Ibrahim Mohammad Zein Al Abedin, who the prosecution claimed is the group leader.

The state prosecutor charged that the defendants attacked the CID facility to avenge the State Security Court's sentencing to death on Dec. 24, 1994 of 11 Islamists and seven others to different prison terms.

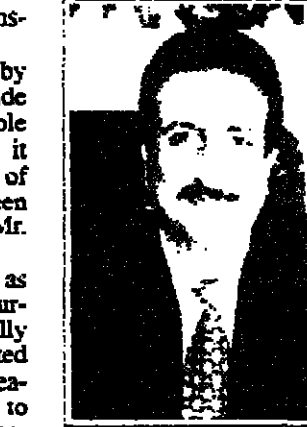
Presiding Judge Yousef Fawzi postponed the case for today (Wednesday) in order to continue hearing the prosecution witnesses.

Meanwhile, the State Security Court set July 10 to start hearing the case of Mohammad Salameh Dweik, an attorney accused of slandering the King and the government.

Mr. Dweik, 42, was arrested on June 13, after his neighbours complained to the authorities that he made remarks that were slanderous to the King and the government. He has denied making any such remarks.

He was released on bail last week, and appeared Tuesday at the State Security Court to defend two men charged in connection with the attack on the CID facility in Baqaa.

"I refuse to comment on my case until the trial is over," Mr. Dweik told the Jordan Times.



Nasser Lawzi

on the volume of goods to be exchanged by trucks.

He added that the two sides will soon hold a meeting to discuss this question.

Mr. Lawzi said imports to Jordan transported in containers will continue to be transported through the Aqaba port only and not through Haifa.

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## Zyuganov confident of second round victory in Russian polls

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russian Communist chief Gennady Zyuganov said Tuesday he was confident of winning the presidential run-off election on July 3 with thousands of party activists campaigning in the provinces.

"We are confident of victory and will do all we can to avoid losing," said Mr. Zyuganov, who won 32 per cent of the vote in the first round on June 16 — three per cent less than President Boris Yeltsin.

Asked why his campaign was relatively low-key compared with Mr. Yeltsin's extensive use of the media and advertising, Mr. Zyuganov replied: "The people are tired of (the advertising) and posters of Yeltsin."



Communist leader and presidential candidate Gennady Zyuganov takes part in a volleyball game in Moscow Tuesday (Reuters photo)

"We have a different tactic. We are studying the situation in each region to see where we have extra reserves (of votes). In regions where we had strong support, but where turnout is low, we are campaigning door-to-door, and thousands of people are working at grassroots level," he said.

Igor Bunin, a leading political analyst, predicted last week that the outcome would largely depend on the turnout, which is expected to be lower than the first round figure of nearly 70 per cent.

Mr. Yeltsin will win if the turnout is around 64 per cent, but if it falls below 58 per cent the victory will go to Mr. Zyuganov as his voters are more disciplined, Mr. Bunin said.

The latest opinion poll ahead of the second round, by the respected VTSIOM institute, gave Mr. Yeltsin 53 per cent and Mr. Zyuganov 34 per cent, with a margin of error of 3.8 per cent, NTV television said.

Mr. Zyuganov Tuesday reiterated his call for a coalition government to be formed after the second round and insisted that the "idea of a coalition government is not dictated by expediency."

On Monday he unveiled plans for a broad coalition government, one-third of which would be members of his forces, one-third current government members and one-third deputies from other parties represented in parliament.

Twelve ministers and 27 deputy ministers in the current Yeltsin government had already been contacted to discuss the idea, he said.

Mr. Zyuganov also proposed the creation of a Council of National Accord, which would include public figures from across the political spectrum.

Yeltsin's spokesman Sergei Medvedev said such a new body would be unconstitutional.

"The creation of another unelected bureaucratic body with vague functions, which is the case with this council, is not envisaged in the Russian constitution," Mr. Medvedev told Interfax News Agency.

Mr. Medvedev said "peace and concord can be attained in society without resorting to such steps."

However, he added that "one can only welcome" the fact that the Communists had recognised the need for broad political agreement.

"The Communist Party leadership recognised the need for civic peace and concord only after their defeat in the first round of the presidential elections, and after political leaders whom the Communists had tried to lure had refused to form a coalition with them," Mr. Medvedev said.

Mr. Yeltsin acted quickly to build on his first-round lead, bringing third-placed retired General Alexander Lebed into his inner circle.

Gen. Lebed, a law-and-order nationalist who scored 14.5 per cent, is now Mr. Yeltsin's national security advisor and secretary of the powerful Russian Security Council.

A large number of those who voted for liberal economist Grigory Yavlinsky, who was fourth with seven per cent, are also expected to vote for Mr. Yeltsin in the second round.

## Yeltsin orders Chechen pullout as July 3 elections draw near

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree Tuesday ordering Russian troops to start pulling out of Chechnya, a pre-election move that his commander in the breakaway region has already begun preparing.

"Carry out the withdrawal of forces and equipment in line with the stabilisation in regions and settlements of the Chechen Republic," Interfax News Agency quoted the decree as saying.

Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, who leads federal Russian forces in Chechnya, said Monday that the 245th Mechanised Infantry Regiment, one of the main army units in Chechnya, would begin to withdraw Friday.

It was not clear how many men it would involve.

The withdrawal, which comes almost three months after Mr. Yeltsin launched a drive to end the unpopular war, may help Mr. Yeltsin in the second round of Russia's presidential election on July 3, when he faces Communist Gennady Zyuganov.

The decree said the pullback should be completed by Sept. 1. But some units will remain in Chechnya, and Mr. Yeltsin said steps should be taken to reinforce them.

Russian sent troops into Chechnya in December 1994 to crush the region's bid for independence and restore Kremlin rule. Since then, more than 30,000 people have been killed.

Russian negotiators, led by Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhailov, were due to fly to Chechnya's capital Grozny Wednesday to resume negotiations with separatist representatives.

Each side accuses the other of violating peace accords reached in Moscow on May 27 and in the southern city of Nazran on June 10.

The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) voiced concern about slow implementation of the

agreements.

"The process of implementing the...accords has slowed down significantly in recent days. There are cases of the ceasefire agreement being violated," said an OSCE statement faxed to Reuters.

Mr. Yeltsin, who has called the Chechen war the biggest disappointment of his presidency, held talks Monday with his new security supremo Alexander Lebed and agreed to incorporate some of the reserve general's ideas into his own programme.

Gen. Lebed, who came third in the June 16 first round of the presidential election before joining Mr. Yeltsin's administration, has called for Russian troops to withdraw to the borders of Chechnya and for a referendum to be held on its status.

He also believes the map should be redrawn to restore Chechnya to its pre-1956 borders, before Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev added two mostly Russian-speaking regions to the now defunct semi-autonomous Chechen-Ingush Republic.

It is unclear just how much of Gen. Lebed's radical plan will be adopted by Mr. Yeltsin, who has categorically ruled out granting Chechnya independence.

Russian negotiators agreed with separatists earlier this month that a pullout of Russian forces should be completed by the end of August with rebels laying down arms at the same time.

Russian spokesman Sergei Slipchenko reaffirmed Moscow's commitment to this, but he accused the rebels of failing to carry out their half of the bargain.

"The armed opposition so far has not only failed to disarm its formations but is not even in a position to fully control them," he told Interfax.

ITAR-TASS news agency said two Russian soldiers had been wounded in eight shooting incidents in Grozny since Monday.

## Poll shows support for Hashimoto slipping

TOKYO (R) — Support for the government of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has waned slightly over the past two months, with just over 40 per cent of voters backing his cabinet, according to a poll published Tuesday.

The survey by the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Japan's leading financial daily, found that support among the electorate for Mr. Hashimoto's cabinet had dropped by 6.8 points since April, when the last poll was conducted, to 41.5 per cent.

The number of people who said they did not support the Mr. Hashimoto government increased to 35 per cent from 28.5 per cent, the newspaper said. The rest of the respondents were undecided.

Those unimpressed by Mr. Hashimoto's government cited "bad policies," the newspaper said, without going into any details on the voters' discontent.

Although Japan's economy is showing signs of recovery, Mr. Hashimoto has struggled to secure passage of legislation to

enact an unpopular plan to use taxpayers' money to wind up mortgage firms saddled with economic bubble-era loans gone bad.

The poll also showed that only 32.6 per cent of respondents were happy with the efforts of the ruling three-party coalition, made up of Mr. Hashimoto's conservative Liberal Democratic Party, the Social Democrats and the small Sakigake Party, an LDP splinter group. Of those surveyed, 62.3 per cent were dissatisfied.

However, there was some consolation for Mr. Hashimoto in that the main opposition party, Shinshinto, is trailing way behind in the popularity stakes.

Only 20.1 per cent expressed support for Shinshinto, a broad party formed in December 1994 out of the merger of several parties, with 69.3 per cent saying they did not appreciate Shinshinto's method of opposition in parliament.

The survey covered 3,000 people nationwide over the weekend, of whom 57.1 per cent responded.

## U.S. embassy tightens rules on love with Russians

MOSCOW (R) — The United States has tightened up the rules of romantic engagement between its diplomats in Moscow and Russians, telling them they have to report the start of a liaison immediately.

A spokesman for the U.S. embassy in Moscow Tuesday confirmed a London newspaper report that the embassy had been issued with fresh instructions concerning intimate relationships between its staff and Russians.

"There is both a reminder, and clarification, of the need to report such relationships," the spokesman said of a new State Department directive.

The issue of romantic attachments between Western embassy staff and Russians has been sensitive since the cold war days when several diplomats were seriously compromised by the Soviet KGB security police after being lured into "honeypot" traps involving Russian women.

But a year ago, the United States lifted the cold war curbs on sleeping with the enemy, allowing its diplomats to have "intimate or romantic relations" with Russians.

Embassy staff with security clearance have always been required to report relations with foreign nationals.

Under the new procedure outlined in a revision of "contact reporting policy", such relationships have now to be reported as soon as they start.

"Any employee subject to the requirement is now required to file a contact report with the regional security officer as soon as possible after initiation of such a relationship," said the directive, the text of which was quoted by the London Times newspaper.

Embassy spokesman Richard Hoagland denied the drill had been tightened up in response to a specific incident.



Communist leader and presidential candidate Gennady Zyuganov answers reporters questions after a volleyball game in Moscow Tuesday. Mr. Zyuganov, trailing President Boris Yeltsin in opinion polls ahead of the July 3 election runoff, called on Monday for a national peace pact and a coalition government (Reuters photo)

## Yeltsin fires 7 top generals

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin fired seven top-ranking generals Tuesday as he pushed ahead with a purge of officers loyal to former Defence Minister Pavel Grachev ahead of the July 3 presidential runoff.

The purge, made in a presidential decree, followed the June 18 sacking of Gen. Grachev and was effected without explanation.

Most of the generals were accused last week by Mr. Yeltsin's new national security adviser, Alexander Lebed, of having participated in a plot to use the army to put pressure on Mr. Yeltsin.

Gen. Lebed accused the former Grachev allies of seeking to organise a mutiny to get Mr. Yeltsin to reverse his decision to sack Gen. Grachev.

Loyal to Mr. Yeltsin but a controversial figure in both military and civilian circles, Gen. Grachev was stripped of his functions the same day that Gen. Lebed was named head of the Security Council.

The four fired generals who had been linked to the alleged plot were: First Deputy Chief of Staff Viktor Barynkov; deputy head of ground forces Vladimir Shulikov; head of the chief of staff

International Cooperation Department Dmitri Kharchenko, and the ministry's chief administrator Valery Lapshov.

Gen. Lebed initially accused the four of planning a coup.

The other three sacked officers were: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Anatoly Bogdanov and Vyacheslav Zherebtsov, and head of Defence Ministry education Sergei Zorikov.

Gen. Lapshov, Gen. Kharchenko and Gen. Zorikov were military academy classmates of Gen. Grachev. All were members of the inner circle he cultivated since taking up the top defence post in 1992. Gen. Grachev also succeeded in sidelining his fiercest opponents.

Gen. Lapshov was known as "Grachev's shadow," while Gen. Zorikov was also extremely loyal to him. And Gen. Kharchenko's daughter is married to the son of the sacked defence minister, the Itogi weekly noted recently.

Gen. Karchenko told Interfax Tuesday that the sacking "was totally unexpected," adding: "I personally did not expect such a development."

Gen. Grachev and Gen. Lebed were irreconcilable enemies. Gen. Lebed, who now commands national security as well as the army, the Interior Ministry and the Secret Services, had repeatedly made acerbic remarks before being forced to leave the army in June 1995, accusing Gen. Grachev, his then superior, of incompetence and corruption.

The nationalist general, who came in third in the first round of the June 16 presidential elections, threw his support behind Mr. Yeltsin and offered him a plan for overhauling the army and overcoming crime and corruption.

Mr. Yeltsin's close finish in the first round — by just three per cent over Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov — had prompted him to take drastic action to drum up votes, first by making Gen. Lebed his national security adviser and then by purging senior officials identified with the old order.

While Gen. Lebed, known for his single-mindedness of purpose but still considered politically green, may not have initiated the Kremlin purge that has followed his appointment, he has clearly been the catalyst, analysts say.

Away from the Defence Ministry, house-cleaning is also taking place at the Security Council, where two deputy secretaries were sacked Tuesday, Vladimir Rubanov and Alexander Trochin, the presidency announced.

The showdown between the liberal wing of Mr. Yeltsin's campaign team and the hardliners resulted last week in the sacking of three of the Security Council's most feared men, Presidential Guard chief Alexander Korzhakov, Federal Security Service (formerly the KGB) chief Mikhail Barsukov, and First Deputy Premier Oleg Soskovets, an economic conservative and proponent of Russia's powerful military industrial complex.

All three were considered hawks who were unofficial advisers to the Russian president.

## S. African officials confident of peaceful poll in troubled province

DURBAN, South Africa (AFP) — Election officials and security forces said Tuesday that the logistics for key local polls Wednesday in Kwazulu-Natal were now in place and they were confident the tentative peace in the province would hold.

"All indications are that the election will be conducted in a peaceful manner and we are very sure that we can cope with any emergency," South African National Defence Force spokeswoman Kim Van Niekerk said.

The army has tripled its troops strength in the province for the elections and 6,000 police reinforcements have been deployed, bringing to 25,000 the number of security personnel guarding voting stations and patrolling so-called "flashpoints" of political violence.

Nearly 20,000 people have died in Kwazulu-Natal since 1985 in a bitter power struggle between the ruling African National Congress (ANC) and the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

Since February, 300 people — including nine election candidates — have been killed, but police have reported a sharp drop in fighting in the past week.

Ms. Van Niekerk said the fact that the death toll over the weekend had dropped from the average 60 to 34 indicated that "the scenario is calming down."

Four special units formed to disarm warring factions and prevent pre-election bloodshed have arrested some 250 people since the beginning of April, police said.

There have been reports of isolated incidents of political violence over the past few days and 14 people were killed Monday and overnight despite a massive security crackdown.

Police spokesman Vish Naidoo said one man was killed and three wounded when unidentified gunmen opened fire late Monday on a worker's hostel in

Kwamashu, north of this Kwazulu-Natal port.

In a police raid codenamed "Operation Stealth," involving more than 1,000 riot policemen and soldiers, at least one person was arrested at a workers hostel and an adjoining squatter camp in the Umlazi township south of Durban.

A grenade launcher, a landmine detector, 65 guns and ammunition were seized in the ANC-controlled area during the operation, which began shortly after midnight (2200 GMT Monday) and ended around midday (1200 GMT) Tuesday.

It was the fifth joint police-army crackdown in the run-up to Wednesday's elections for new rural, town and city councils in the province.

Kwazulu-Natal's provincial Premier Frank Mdlalose, who is also the IFP's national chairman, travelled Tuesday to Mandini, on the north coast, to visit the home of an IFP member who was killed Sunday night.

More than 3.5 million people are registered to vote Wednesday for more than 60 town and village councils, seven greater regional councils and the Metropolitan Council in Durban, which is home to more than half of the province's electorate.

"We are confident that everything will go smoothly," said Warwick Dornier, a spokesman for the Provincial Election Task Force.

"We are better organised than the other provinces, given the extra time we have had to prepare," he said, referring to the fact that Kwazulu-Natal is the last of South Africa's nine provinces to hold local government elections.

Elections were held in most parts of the country in November 1995 but postponed twice in Kwazulu-Natal because of the violence and legal disputes over the position of tribal chiefs.

## Doctors leave swabs inside women patients

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian doctors forgot to remove surgical swabs from inside two women during caesarean sections, the government newspaper Al Akhbar said Tuesday. Suzanne Fawzi Mohammad, 30, had a caesarean section in a state-owned hospital in March. For three months she had severe abdominal pain then X-rays showed the swab inside her. The other victim is Hanan Hazayen Said, 25, who had a caesarean in a private hospital last month. X-rays showed two swabs and she had an operation to remove them. Both women have complained to the police, who have questioned five gynaecologists.

## Pavarotti's lover wants children

LONDON (R) — The young lover of Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti wants children and the couple have already agreed names, Nicoletta Mantovani told Hello magazine Monday: "I have spoken with Luciano about children. I would like a child, actually two." Earlier this year Pavarotti separated from his wife of 35 years, Adua, in favour of Ms. Mantovani who is 34 years his junior. Pavarotti, 60, said it was "a great relief" to be able to talk about their love at last. "There is really only one thing we argue about, food," Nicoletta said.

## 'World's most expensive beer' for sale in London

LONDON (R) — Fancy a drop of really real old ale? It will cost you more than most of the world's finest wine. The first bottle of Tutankhamun ale, brewed from an ancient Egyptian recipe, goes on sale at Harrods department store in London next month for £5,000 (\$7,686). It's the most expensive beer in the world, according to the brewers. The rest of the batch will be 100 times cheaper — still a wallet-emptying experience to quench one's thirst and curiosity. "It has taken us five years to get this far, but eventually we have bought a legend to life. It's literally the liquid gold of the pharaohs," said Jim Merington, commercial director of Newcastle Breweries.

## Polish priests charged in car swindle

WARSAW (R) — Three clergymen belonging to Poland's Orthodox Church have been formally charged with customs fraud after illegally importing four cars to Poland, Polish News Agency (PAP) said. The three were indicted of fraud after submitting forged documents to avoid paying customs duties, the agency quoted the prosecutor as saying. The documents alleged that the cars had been gifts to the church which, under Polish law, would have exempted them from border payments. The priests and a university professor who masterminded the scheme had cheated the state treasury out of some \$9,000 in customs payments and taxes.

## Pastor jailed for sex abuse

KARLSTAD, Sweden (AFP) — A Lutheran Church pastor was jailed here Monday for three years for sexually abusing his step-daughter over several years. The court in Karlstad also ordered the pastor to pay 130,000 krona (\$19,400) damages to his victim who is now adult. The court found the pastor guilty of sexually abusing the girl after marrying her mother in 1980. The pastor who was arrested in May last year, denied having sex with the girl before her majority. He said she later agreed to intercourse "out of love" for him.







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## Realism is the answer

MIDDLE EAST political pundits seem to be divided on whether Arab-Israeli negotiations, even if they resume any time soon, can produce any tangible results before the spring of next year. The pessimists expect the peace process on either the Syrian, Lebanese or Palestinian tracks with Israel not to move in any substantial way during the remainder of this year and the early months of 1997.

The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, appears in no hurry to advance the process before consolidating his rule and putting an end to terrorism. "The strategic choice of all parties in the region should be clear: it is terrorism or peace, you cannot have both," Mr. Netanyahu said yesterday after his first meeting as prime minister with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Mr. Christopher concurred with the prime minister, but in a more subtle way: "Real peace without security is not possible and real security without peace is not possible."

The Clinton administration, despite assurances to the contrary, cannot be in a hurry either, the pessimists argue. Mr. Clinton has presidential elections to win in a five months' time; there is too much work for him at home to worry about such international problems as the Middle East or otherwise now, despite his personal commitment to the cause. Besides, U.S. pressure on Israel, which in fact might have to be applied to prod the Israelis along, might alienate AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or other Jewish lobby groups and could result in losses for the Democrats. So he would not do it.

More likely the Clinton administration will want to make do with exploring positions and content itself with reassessments and more analysis until after the elections, while attempting to assuage fears by the Arab parties, especially by the Syrians and the Palestinians, on Mr. Netanyahu's intentions. The U.S. Congress, on the other hand, will certainly want to adjust positions to accommodate the wishes of the new Israeli government, regardless of the change in the make-up of the Senate and the House of Representatives in the November elections.

According to this pessimistic scenario, the Palestinians will have to "batter terrorism" which they have done only partially so far, as Mr. Netanyahu put it. Mr. Yasser Arafat and his Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will have to do more to convince the Israelis that no acts of violence will emanate from the West Bank and Gaza although most of these areas is not under PNA control and still suffers from the continued closure by Israel. Further, Syria will have to rein in Hizbollah in South Lebanon, curb the activities of the Damascus-based Palestinian and Kurdish guerrilla groups and distance itself from Iran in order to get into the good books of the U.S. and Israel and to make a resumption of the peace talks, "without preconditions," possible.

But if they do not the peace process might reach a stalemate.

The optimists might take heart from what Mr. Netanyahu said yesterday where he announced that negotiations with the Palestinians would resume on different levels soon and that he would live up to all commitments made by his predecessors. The optimists can also draw on any number of other factors, whether on the Arab or the Israeli side, to prove the pessimists wrong.

Which side's arguments will win in the end remains to be seen. It is best, for now, to be realistic, prudent and cautious.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

NOW THAT the Arabs have shown solidarity through their recent meeting in Cairo, they are called on to back their position with practical action, said Sultan Al Hatab, a writer for Al Ra'i daily. The Arab leaders must carry out joint plans designed to back the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom and force the new Israeli government to honour its commitments to the peace process, said the writer. Furthermore, the Arab leaders should embark on improving relations among themselves through putting into force economic agreements that have been shelved due to differences in views among political leaders, demanded the writer who said that only through such actions can the Arabs show the world that they are united and determined to attain their national goals. The Arab states should open their borders to each other, allow the free flow of capital and workers and start exchanging goods so that their economies can be strengthened in the face of the various world economic developments, he added. The summit in Cairo has reaffirmed the Arab leaders' determination not only to pursue the peace process with Israel but also to pave the way for stronger inter-Arab relations and therefore, said the writer, Arab masses await practical steps to see these policies implemented.

THE ARAB summit in Cairo was described by a writer for Al Dustour as an all out Arab Nation's reply to the change in Israel's policies with regard to the peace with the Arabs. Hamadeh Faranah said that in response to Netanyahu's hardline stance regarding withdrawal of Israeli forces from Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian territories, the Arab leaders have chosen to close their ranks and act in concert to regain their rights.

## Washington Watch

# U.S. parties' debate over abortion — not a piece of cake

By Dr. James Zogby

AN INTENSE and divisive debate over the issue of abortion is once again threatening the unity of the Republican Party. For two and a half decades the issue of abortion has been one of the most morally troubling and politically volatile issues facing both political parties in the U.S.

Since the Supreme Court ruled in 1973 that laws allowing abortion were constitutional, two deeply divided poles emerged in the U.S. policy debate. On the one side were those who supported the Supreme Court decision, which held that women should have the right to an abortion and that the question was a personal matter of free choice and should be a private one between a woman and her doctor. On the other side were those who held that abortion was a moral question involving the ending of a human life and that it should be outlawed except in extreme cases.

As debate over the question has evolved, a strange political alignment has taken shape. The Republican coalition became more strongly identified with the anti-abortion position, while the Democrats have become the strongest supporters of the freedom of choice position. This was an ideologically confusing state of affairs, since historically Republicans have espoused a liberation philosophy of less government involvement in personal affairs, while Democrats have identified themselves as the party that viewed government intervention as necessary and "desirable" in upholding issues of morality affecting the public good.

It was Democrats, for example, who led the fight in the 1960s for Civil Rights and Affirmative Action, arguing that government had an obligation to guarantee equal rights for all citizens and to offer protection to those who had been denied their rights. Republicans, back then, argued unsuccessfully that passing legislation on Civil Rights constituted government intrusion into issues of personal choice and morality.

If a neighbourhood or coffee shop or school board wanted to be "white-only", Republicans argued that the

government had no right to order them to do otherwise; and even if such free choices were repugnant, those who made them were entitled to such freedoms.

One result of this alignment was that abortion, in addition to being a deeply troubling moral issue, became an intensely partisan issue as well, with both Republicans and Democrats hardening their official positions during the past two decades. Because the philosophical underpinnings of the pro-choice and anti-abortion positions did not match the overall ideologies of their adoptive parties, there continued to be strife within each party over this question.

In part, because of the inter-party division over abortion is so deep, on many occasions intra-party differences were put down by the increasingly doctrinaire groups who came to dominate the debate within each party.

As religious fundamentalists and traditional conservatives became the activist base of the Republican party, more liberalization Republicans found it difficult to air their views on abortion. Over time the official view of the Republicans hardened and excluded tolerance for any alternative view.

In 1976, for example, the Republican Party position reflected an internal party debate. While calling for respectful dialogue between groups on opposite sides of the abortion issue, the party affirmed its anti-abortion position, stating:

"The question of abortion is one of the most difficult and controversial of our time. It is undoubtedly a personal and moral issue... There are those in our party who favour complete support for the Supreme Court positions which permits abortion on demand. There are other who share sincere convictions that the Supreme Court's decision must be changed by a constitutional amendment banning all abortions... The Republican Party favours a continuance of the public dialogue on abortion and supports the efforts of those who seek enactment of a constitutional amendment to restore protection of the right to life for unborn children."

By 1992, the anti-abor-

tion Republican activists had succeeded in hardening the position of their party so that the platform read:

"We believe the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We therefore reaffirm our support for a human life amendment to the constitution, and we endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children."

Increasingly, advocates of the pro-choice position (as supporters of the Supreme Court decision allowing abortion came to be called) found it difficult to even raise their concerns in the context of Republican Party debates. The atmosphere became so intolerant that pro-choice Republicans who spoke at the 1992 Republican National Convention were roundly booed by the delegates in attendance.

Because the activist base of the Republican Party — those who participate in the primaries and caucuses that elect party officials and presidential delegates — has come to be dominated by religious and traditional conservative hardliners, Republican candidates for president must compete with each other over who will be the most anti-abortion.

The growing intolerance for alternative views has become worrisome to party leaders. Neither party is based on a single issue. In fact, both parties are, in effect, coalitions of interest groups who are unified by several common concerns and simply agree to disagree about others. Pro-choice Republicans remain Republicans because they agree with the basic Republican thinking of decreasing government involvement in business and reducing taxes, even though they sharply disagree over the issue of abortion.

But as the official party view on abortion hardened and became increasingly less tolerant, pro-choice Republicans and several influential party leaders began to warn that the party could lose the support of voters in the general public who were either pro-choice or concerned about the lack of tolerance within the party.

During the 1996 presi-

dential primary season, Bob Dole joined other candidates in taking a hardline position on abortion. In an effort to outflank his opponents, Dole adopted or emphasised positions of the far right. He changed his position on affirmative action and gun control and displayed his anti-abortion credentials. The Christian right seemed mollified by these moves. While many in their ranks had supported Pat Buchanan, Dole picked up enough of their support to ensure victory.

But no sooner were the primaries over than the internal party debate over abortion intensified. Six pro-choice Republican governors called on Dole to change the party platform to express acceptance of alternative viewpoints. Some even asked that language on the abortion issue be dropped from the platform completely.

In response, the anti-abortion forces announced that they would mobilise their supporters to block any attempt by Dole to change the platform and to make clear their opposition to Dole selecting a pro-choice Republican as his vice presidential nominee (Colin Powell, for example, is pro-choice, and such a position would effectively block him from running as a Republican in 1996).

Some anti-abortion leaders, including Pat Buchanan, have gone so far as to suggest that if the Republicans changed the party position on abortion, they might leave to form another political party.

In an effort to head off a confrontation, a few weeks ago Dole suggested that he would affirm the party's abortion platform language from 1992, but would add a clause to the platform calling for tolerance of differing views. This brought peace for two days, as Pat Buchanan and other anti-abortion leaders expressed satisfaction with Dole's compromise and pro-choice Republicans, while they wanted Dole to go farther, expressed at least some acceptance of his new position.

Then, almost inexplicably, a few days later Dole reignited the fire of controversy by announcing that the clause on tolerance would be written into the abortion plank itself, not in a general appeal for toler-

ance on all issues appearing in the preamble to the platform as many activists initially expected. Dole also launched a bitter personal attack on Gary Bauer, one of the leaders of the anti-abortion movement. Implying that Bauer was intolerant and not a good Republican, Dole made certain that the debate would not end any time soon.

In recent weeks, the anti-abortion forces in the Republican party have struck back. In some states' Republican conventions, where Christian fundamentalists and traditional conservatives dominate, those groups have combined to block the election of some of Dole's pro-choice delegates and have instead elected leaders from their own ranks to the national party platform committee.

Some analysts have suggested that Dole's striking out was a deliberate attempt to take control of his own campaign and his party platform. They compare Dole's move to some of the steps taken by Clinton in 1992, when then-candidate Clinton faced down some traditional hardline Democratic groups in order to show his independence and establish his credentials as a "new Democrat."

Polling on abortion presents a confusing picture, as the majority of the American people support the official position of neither the Republicans nor the Democrats. By a 72-20 per cent margin Americans are opposed to the Republican Party's call for a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. At the same time, the majority of Americans (65 per cent) also do not support the Democratic Party's liberal view of abortion, with 45 per cent saying abortion should be illegal and another 18 per cent saying that there should be stricter limits than exist today.

Dole may find some public support for his position, but he may also find that he has created an earthquake which may cause structural damage to his party's efforts to remain unified and win the general election. What is certain is that the abortion debate is far from over and resolving it will not be, as Dole asserted last week, "a piece of cake."

# China will play key role in determining next secretary-general

By Robert H. Reid  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Although the United States will probably succeed in ousting Boutros Ghali, China may play a big role in determining who succeeds him as secretary-general.

China will ensure that no one unacceptable to developing countries wins approval in the Security Council, which nominates a candidate, or in the 185-member General Assembly, which ratifies the choice.

The White House has announced that it opposes the 73-year-old Egyptian diplomat and will use its Security Council veto if necessary to prevent a second term when his current five-year appointment expires Dec. 31.

As one of the five permanent members, China has a veto too, along with Russia, France and Britain. The 15-member council will probably begin the formal selection process in November.

If Dr. Ghali carries

through with his pledge to run, the United States would probably veto him in the first round — and China would probably veto all Western-backed candidates.

That would lead to protracted horse-trading, with names offered and withdrawn, until the council decides on a candidate acceptable to all five permanent members.

Dr. Ghali, an Egyptian, became the first African head of the United Nations when he was selected in 1991 to succeed Javier Peres de Cuellar of Peru.

During the 1991 selection, Non-Aligned Movement members of the council voted as a bloc against all the candidates initially favoured by the United States and other Western powers.

Western countries oppose the tradition of geographic favouritism in selecting the secretary-general. But developing countries strongly believe that a secretary-general from the Third World is necessary to counterbal-

ance the power of the Security Council, dominated by Americans and Europeans.

Enter China. As the only developing country among the five permanent members, China promotes itself as the champion of the marginalised U.N. members against the major powers.

In the council, China rarely takes strong positions on issues, preferring to go along with the consensus. It has supported continued economic sanctions against Iraq, although it says it opposes such measures in principle.

But championing candidates acceptable to the Third World at the expense of those favoured exclusively by the West would score diplomatic points for Beijing.

It is unlikely African and Asian countries would swallow denying a second term to an African secretary-general and replacing him with a Westerner such as Irish President Mary Robinson or Norwegian Prime Minister Gro

Harlem Brundtland.

China's veto would ensure that that sentiment prevails.

Once the council agrees on a candidate, the winner's name is forwarded to the General Assembly, where there is no veto and the majority rules. The majority of assembly members are from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Under U.N. rules, the majority could refuse the choice and ask the council to make another selection. Unless China approved the choice, the process could go on indefinitely.

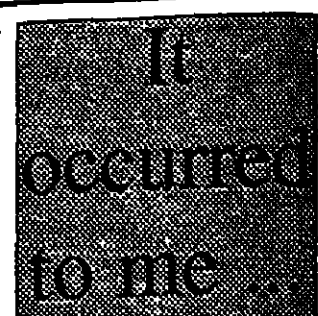
With the United Nations facing the gravest financial crisis of its history, the major powers are anxious to avoid an ugly battle over the secretary-general's post.

France has been Dr. Ghali's strongest supporter among the permanent council members, and U.N. sources say French diplomats have been telling their colleagues that they would like to see the succession issue resolved as soon as possible.

If Washington sticks by its opposition to Dr. Ghali, that would require dumping him and finding a candidate whom the West could sell to most of the developing countries — and China.

U.N. sources say French President Jacques Chirac plans to raise the issue at the G-7 summit next week in Lyon, France. Dr. Ghali will attend the meeting along with President Clinton and leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Canada, Japan and Britain.

There is a precedent for the General Assembly to overrule the council and extend the term of the incumbent secretary-general on its own. Ironically, it was the United States that forced that precedent. In 1950, the Soviet Union opposed the reelection of the first U.N. secretary-general, Trygve Lie of Norway. The United States led a successful campaign in the assembly to extend his term for three years.



## Depreciating diplomas

By Ali Kassay

One of the first facts to which we, Jordanians, proudly treat foreigners inquiring about our country is that Jordan boasts one of the highest rates of university degree holders in the whole world. Considering that we started around sixty years ago with one high school in the whole country, the achievement is indeed remarkable. So let us look at what it signifies.

At face value, one would imagine that this vast array of highly qualified men and women are busily active in research and development, assiduously propelling Jordan to the forefront of technology-producing countries. Is it true? Is research and development in Jordan more advanced and dynamic than in industrially advanced countries? Well, actually, the budget allocated to research and development by Jordanian industries tends to be dangerously close to zero.

But, intersects the voice of confidence, perhaps we are not working entirely for Jordanian industries. With the "competitive cost of manpower", which is a euphemism for the grossly underpaid and overqualified staff that we have to offer, it should be possible for Jordanian research institutes to attract contracts from major international industries to conduct their research and development here. Perhaps it is being done. So, we inquire, how many patents, inventions or "new ideas" originated in this country or, for that matter, in this region? The sad answer is that the "cradle of civilisation" has hardly come up with a single bright new idea for pretty much seven hundred years. Most Arabs who have risen to international renown in the sciences and the arts in the twentieth century had to go abroad to do it.

So what do we do with our army of graduates? We shove them in the civil service, preferably in a line unrelated to their qualification. Consequently, we face the thick and thin of life with a bureaucracy congested to bursting point, acting as employer of last resort.

At the same time, we have the paradoxical situation of a grossly under-industrialised country, trying to attract foreign investment on the basis of a large surplus of engineers and hardly a single precision machinist. They have all shunned labour in favour of paper qualifications, a white collar and tie, and a place at the end of the long queue outside the Civil Service Bureau. And what of the plethora of vocational training centres which in other countries are financed by industry to produce its need of skilled manpower? Well, they give their students the equivalent of the first two years at university, leaving them neither graduates nor professionals, and thoroughly unemployable.

And how do we seek to redress the imbalance? Not by offering better opportunities for professional training, nor by increasing the facilities offered to small and medium-sized industries which, in other countries, spearhead the fight against unemployment, but by increasing the number of universities. We must not lose our place at the forefront of countries overpopulated by graduates and holders of doctorates.

Come to think of it, maybe it was not so clever of us to cultivate so many university graduates. What this piece of statistics boils down to is that Jordanian school leavers go to university for the lack of employment, not to say for the lack of other idleness.



is that such a dialogue must be with an authoritative, official representative of the Iranian government.

Nevertheless, until we see change in Iran's behaviour, there will be no change in our policy, Iran must face the full consequences of its actions.

Q: Mr. President, you are surely aware that terms like "fundamentalism," "Violence," "terrorism" have left a dark shadow on the relationship between Islam and the West. How would you explain this situation and what are your views on it?

A: I disagree with the premise of your question. I do not see a "dark shadow" of our relationship with the Islamic world. If you look across the globe, you will find that the United States has very close relations with the vast majority of countries in which a majority of the population professes the Muslim faith. To be sure, there are a few countries — such as Iraq, Iran and Libya — which have adopted a confrontational posture towards the United States and the West. These are not typical, however. In fact, these countries do not have trouble-free relations with their fellow Islamic countries either.

We also do not make sweeping generalisations such as the question implies. We do not believe that Islam is synonymous with violence nor do we see any inevitable "clash of civilisations" between the West and the Islamic world. As the nearly six million American Muslims will attest, Islamic values are fully compatible with American values. What will oppose extremism, terrorism, and the abuse of human rights wherever and whenever they arise, but we do not believe that such practices are inherent in Islam. Our foreign policy must be based on our interests and the specific behaviour of nations, not on the basis of labels.

Q: Finally are you a good president?

A: I leave it to the American people to judge. They are going to do it soon. I feel there is a lot to be done...

Q: By you, Mr. President?

A: I would like to complete what we have started. However, there are so many areas, I feel committed on personal level,



## Oman in long-term plan to boost economy

ABU DHABI (AFP) — the Gulf state of Oman has drawn up long-term plans to restore balance to its state budget and ensure a strong economic performance away from volatile oil earnings, officials have said.

The non-OPEC oil producer said it would use crude income itself and tap its growing private sector to ensure high growth rates over the next 25 years and meeting the rising needs of its expanding population.

"Our goal is to ensure the economy will perform well and growth rates remain high until the year 2020 away from the effects of changing oil prices," said Mahmoud Al Jarwani, director of the Muscat Stock Exchange.

"This can be achieved through economic restructuring programmes we have launched, especially expanding the non-oil industries and boosting the role of the private sector," he told AFP by telephone from the Omani capital.

Mr. Jarwani said the 1996-2000 development plan, Oman's fifth, would set the stage for economic diversification for the following two decades by focusing on boosting the private sector and attracting investment.

Official figures show the government gradually giving way to the private sector, with private investment projected to surge to 3.8 billion Omani riyals (\$9.88 billion) during the current development plan from 1.5 billion riyals (\$3.9 billion) in the previous plan.

The forecast funds account for nearly 53 per cent of total investment despite expected large government spending on a major liquefied natural gas plant.

"Most non-oil sectors grew by more than 10 per cent last year. We want to maintain that trend in the long-term," Mr. Jarwani said.

Oman, which produces around 840,000 barrels per day of oil, has launched

large-scale reforms to diversify its economy and minimise reliance on crude export revenues, which provide more than 80 per cent of its total income.

The reforms include privatisation of public institutions and setting up major projects with the participation of the private sector.

Announcing its five-year scheme early this year, the government said the budget deficit was expected to disappear by the end of the plan. The shortfall was estimated to have been slashed to around \$1.39 billion from \$5.82 billion during the fourth development plan as a result of reduced government expenditure.

The fifth plan also targets higher exports due to expansion in the non-oil industry and the farming sectors. Exports are projected to jump to around \$34.78 billion from \$27.3 billion in the previous plan.

Addressing the Shura Council, an advisory body, recently Oman's minister of national economy, Ahmad

Ben Abdul Nabi Maki, said he expected the budget deficit to be wiped out in 2000 due to government measures to achieve a balance between expenditure and revenues and develop non-oil earnings.

He said other measures aimed to attract domestic and foreign capital, develop government investment with the help of oil revenues, and support the private sector to enable it to spearhead economic activity. "We have drawn up concepts to deal with the economy in future. They are

divided into two stages: The urgent and the long-term stages," he said. "The first stage started with the fifth development plan, during which we lay down solid bases for the national economy until 2020."

Officials said such plans would be supported by increased income from the LNG plant, which will be commissioned in 1999. The project, with production capacity of six million tonnes per year, is expected to boost Oman's current income by nearly 30 per cent, they said.

## Dubai mulls permanent residence for investors

DUBAI (R) — Dubai is considering offering permanent residence to foreign investors as part of plans to attract investment from abroad, Dubai Economic Department head Mohammad Alabbas said.

"Several issues such as permanent residency should be drawn up to encourage more investors to come here," the Gulf News daily quoted Mr. Alabbas as saying.

Of the around 635,000 people who live in Dubai, the second largest emirate and commercial hub of the seven-member United Arab Emirates, about three quarters are foreigners.

They must be sponsored by a national to live in Dubai and are not permitted to own more than 49 per cent of a company, nor can they own any property.

The only exceptions are companies within the Jebel Ali Free Zone, where 100 per cent foreign ownership is allowed.

Facing declining oil reserves, Dubai is trying to attract foreign investment to bolster its non-oil economy.

"We aim at making Dubai the best regional economic hub and this can only be done by increasing satisfaction among our customers," Mr. Alabbas said.

## Iran earns \$40m from caviar export

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian exports of caviar earned the Islamic republic about \$40 million in the year ending March 19 despite a drop in world prices, the Iranian news agency IRNA has said.

It quoted fisheries organisation managing director Rasol Lahjanian as saying Iran exported 146 tonnes of caviar worth 60 million marks in the last Iranian year. It did not give figures for the previous year.

Mr. Lahjanian said demand for good quality caviar pushed the price of Iranian caviar up 40 per cent despite a drop in world prices since the collapse of the former Soviet Union.

## Healthy growth seen for South East Asian economies

SINGAPORE (AFP) — South East Asia's booming economies are on course for healthy growth into the next century, but the immediate road ahead is not all smooth, a regional think-tank says.

Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand are saddled with high current-account deficits as a result of rapid expansion while the Philippines is facing a potential flare-up of inflation as it aims for accelerated growth.

A chronic labour shortage and a resulting rise in wages dog tiny Singapore, the region's most mature economy, as it attempts to spread its wings overseas to overcome its limited human resources and land area.

And socialist Vietnam faces the task of completing economic reforms while taming the bugbear of inflation in the uneasy transition to a free market.

Those were the findings of the Singapore-based Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), an independent think-tank which serves as a forum for government and business leaders and academics on trade and economic policy.

Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam are members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) together with the tiny oil-rich Sultanate of Brunei.

Toh Mun Heng, a Singaporean economist who was part of the panel that prepared the forecasts, said ASEAN "is capable of

sustainable growth of six to eight per cent in the coming five years."

The PECC's annual Pacific economic outlook report predicted real growth of 7.6 per cent and 7.8 per cent for Indonesia in 1996 and 1997, 8.9 per cent and 8.6 per cent for Malaysia, 5.5 per cent and 6.3 per cent for the Philippines, 7.5 per cent and 7.2 per cent for Singapore and 8.3 per cent in both years for Thailand.

Vietnam, which only joined ASEAN in 1995 and is the least developed in the group, was tipped for economic growth of 9.6 per cent and 9.8 per cent.

After a relatively soft landing in 1995, each economy faces its own problems.

The PECC said Indonesia's current-account deficit would decline only marginally, from 4.5 per cent in 1995 to 3.4 per cent of gross domestic product in 1996 to 3.3 billion.

"This improvement is forecast to be only temporary," it warned. "Imports of capital goods are expected to remain at a high rate because many existing industries are still at the stage of consolidation."

Malaysia's deficit was predicted to remain at \$7.2 billion at the end of 1996. Thailand's deficit, which in 1995 reached \$13.2 billion according to other estimates, was expected to widen slightly in 1996.

These current-account deficits are associated with high economic growth rates resulting in higher imports, much of it capital goods

needed by manufacturing industries.

The PECC said Malaysia and probably Thailand are at a stage where they are transitioning from labour-intensive manufacturing to capital-intensive production.

"The Philippines on the other hand faces a 'major constraint' in the residual flames of inflation from 1995" as it aims for higher growth.

"As prudent macroeconomic and monetary policies attempt to contain inflation to a seven to eight per cent rate for the year, this will brake an accelerated pace of economic growth," it predicted.

Singapore corporations are grappling with a strain on their personnel as they try to meet the demands of their regional thrust, said Mr. Toh.

"As we are externalising our economy, we need managers to take charge of our investments abroad," he said.

Vietnam, which faces double-digit inflation in 1996 and 1997, was urged to stay the course of reform to promote growth.

Mr. Toh said liberalisation and deregulation brought such problems as local companies finding it difficult to compete with foreign counterparts amid wage differentials.

"These are inevitable as you open up — it is a problem of adjustment," he said.

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Contact good friends at this time and gain their support for some important plan. Try to please your mate later in the evening.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 21) You can get much completed in whatever is of interest to you during the daytime today, but avoid a fellow associate who can be troublesome.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) This is an excellent day today for gaining prestige. Forget dull career activities in the evening. Prepare for a trip, but count the cost.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Get duties handled today in a more modern way. Steer clear of extravagant pleasure later in the evening at this time for your success.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Have a discussion with one of a different background to your own today and come to a fine understanding towards your fellow associates.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Get your interests nicely improved and gain the goodwill of bigwigs today, but make important visits tonight to see congenial friends.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Early today plan the pleasure which you desire, but don't be too extravagant in the evening. Be careful around motors and machinery.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Get new ideas working which can improve the conditions around your home today. Forget about personal desires for you at this time.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Plan how to get your fellow associates to go along with your ideas and get better results. Be more thoughtful towards your loved ones.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to Jan. 20) This is a good day today to make more modern improvements to your home and don't forget to go after a wish which you have had for some time.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Get busy expressing good ideas today which are permeating your mind, and get fine results for your activities. Be happier with your mate.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Don't permit a newcomer to monopolise your time. Plan the days ahead very wisely so that you can be quite successful. Take it easy tonight with your loved ones.

Birthstone of June: Emerald — Citrines.

**Instituto Cervantes**

ORGANISMO PÚBLICO CREADO POR LEY 7/91 DE 21 DE MARZO DE 1991  
PARA LA DIFUSIÓN DE LA LENGUA Y LA CULTURA ESPAÑOLAS

**CONVOCA PARA SU INSTITUTO EN AMMÁN EL SIGUIENTE PUESTO:**

**1 OFICIAL ADMINISTRATIVO (Ref. AMM-01/3)**

Se responsabilizará de las actividades relacionadas con la gestión administrativa y económica del Centro.

Se requiere:

- Bachiller Superior, Formación Profesional II grado o equivalente.
- Experiencia mínima de 2 años en puestos similares.
- Dominio de los idiomas español, árabe y/o inglés.
- Amplios conocimientos de informática.
- Amplios conocimientos de contabilidad.

Se valorarán conocimientos de otros idiomas (francés, alemán, italiano, etc.).

El Instituto Cervantes se reserva el derecho a realizar las pruebas que estime necesarias para determinar la aptitud de los candidatos.

Deberán acreditarse documentalmente requisitos y méritos que se aleguen.

La documentación, traducida al español, deberá ser enviada en sobre certificado a este Centro, Mohammad Hafiz Ma'ath St., N° 10, P.O.Box: 815467 - Ammán (Jordania), en el plazo de 15 días desde la publicación de este anuncio, indicando la referencia.

La contratación se regirá por la legislación Jordana.

**THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Witte**

ACROSS

- Unusual: abbr.
- Genesis gent
- Louvers
- Trip
- Not any
- Discussion group
- City in India
- Not present
- Beginning, briefly
- Miscalculate, mathematically?
- Story
- Spelling or quilting
- Volcanic mount
- Chesterfield
- Play part
- Italian city
- Cousin's mother
- Aspersions
- Admission of one's deficiency in languages?
- Control strap
- Morays
- Bert's pal
- Kind of curve
- Woman
- Salad makings
- Rocky crag
- Rational
- Fail in social studies?
- Idolize
- Slender
- Fingerprint, perhaps
- Standards
- Bowling alley
- Seaweed
- Welcome
- Luge
- Foolhardy

DOWN

- Kind of party
- stick
- Continental prefix
- Skilled worker
- Zaire's neighbor
- Loma —
- Magnani
- Track competition
- Petite piano
- Hope of Hollywood
- up (pay)
- Sea swallow
- Aperture
- Deadly
- Lessen
- City skyline
- sight
- Loathes
- Unaccented part
- Like some hair
- Small bills
- Singly
- Soup flavoring
- Comers
- Like Methuselah
- Vehicle for Stanley
- Kowalski
- Master
- Medieval
- Scottish soldiers
- common denominator
- Came into
- Melodious
- Mel
- Movie classic
- Crew
- Aroma
- , mi. la...
- Woes
- "Hud" actress
- Earthenware pot
- Floor covers
- Casual O.K.

**THE BETTER HALF** By Glasbergen

"That new detergent makes my underwear itch. Today I almost got fired for harassing myself."

**Peanuts**

**Andy Capp**

**Mutt'n'Jeff**

BU...  
JO...  
LONDON...  
Industry...  
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Fraser Inc...  
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## Jordan week in Britain opens

LONDON (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Ali Abul Ragheb and his British counterpart Lord Fraser Tuesday opened the first Jordanian Week in London.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Mr. Abul Ragheb stressed the importance of this week in Britain, saying that Jordan pins great hopes on its results.

Mr. Abul Ragheb praised the existing bilateral cooperation in the economic field, saying that it reflects a genuine desire to expand

about the nature, fields and scopes of investment in Jordan and to provide Britons with first-hand information on Jordanian industries.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra Mr. Abul Ragheb said the government is implementing a new economic policy to cope with the global developments and economic trends. He noted that the government's policy envisages the implementation of several economic activities, including the organisation of industrial exhibitions in the European countries, as a prelude to Jordan's participation in the European-Mediterranean partnership.

Referring to the private sector's role, Mr. Abul Ragheb said the private sec-

tor is a full partner with the government, adding that it participates actively in the economic decisionmaking process.

Lord Fraser said the British market is open for Jordanian products and voiced hope that the Jordanian industrial exhibition will contribute to reversing the balance of trade in favour of Jordan. He also voiced hope that the meetings between Jordanian and British investors and businessmen will lead to more British investments in Jordan.

He pledged his country's support for Jordan through the Jordanian European partnership agreement, which will allow Jordan to enter the European markets. On the sideline of the

week, which is organised by the Jordanian Export Promotion and Trade Centres Corporation in cooperation with the Arab British Chamber of Commerce, a one-day seminar on scopes of investment in Jordan and bilateral cooperation will be held today, according to the corporation director-general Mohammad Halaka. He added that a total of 150 British and Jordanian businessmen, in addition to British officials will be taking part in the symposium.

The Jordan Week follows a British Lifestyle Exhibition that was held in Amman last week when more than 400 companies exhibited their consumer products.

## Israel, Jordan and U.S. set up technology fund

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, Jordan and the United States have set up a joint fund that will invest in trilateral technology projects, said the manager of the new fund, Dan Vilenski.

Mr. Vilenski is the executive director of the Bird Foundation, which promotes bilateral research and development projects between U.S. and Israeli companies.

"I felt if we would expand this to the Jordanian side and make it trilateral, this can help industries but also maybe help in the peace process," Mr. Vilenski told Reuters.

"The three governments have recognised the advantage and we are running now an experiment in which each government will put in one third of \$1 million," said Mr. Vilenski,

who will manage the new fund only in its experimental phase.

The first projects are expected to get under way in November and if the experimental phase is successful, the programme will be extended.

The new fund is called Tride, short for Trilateral Industrial Development.

"We are inviting individual companies to approach us if this model is attractive to them and we will help them to match their partners," he said.

One possible project would involve the Internet in Arabic, using U.S. Hardware, Israeli software and Jordanian applications, Mr. Vilenski said.

"Another approach can be pollution, water control or irrigation," he said.

## Air Palestine set to take off

GAZA CITY (AFP) — The Palestinian territories will get their first international airline in July when Air Palestine takes off with two donated Fokker jets, officials in Gaza have said.

"We hope our company will become operational in July," said the Palestinian director of civil aviation, Fayez Zidan.

He said the company would start up with two 50-seat Fokker planes donated by the Netherlands government, which are expected to be delivered by early July.

"With these two aircraft, Air Palestine will operate between Gaza on the one hand and Cairo and Amman on the other," he told AFP.

The company is exploring other routes including one to Cyprus, Mr. Zidan added.

The Palestinians' first international airport in the Gaza Strip was christened recently by Mr. Arafat's personal jet — the only plane so far allowed by Israel to land in the unfinished airport, which is yet to get a control tower.

"Air Palestine does not necessarily have to wait for work on the airport to be completed before it goes into service," Mr. Zidan said, adding that the Palestinians have a

mobile control tower.

"In one year, Gaza airport will be ready to receive Airbus 320 and Boeing 737 planes," he predicted.

Israel and the Palestinian autonomy government signed a preliminary agreement late last month on opening the airfield after months of wrangling over how responsibility for security would be shared between them.

Under the terms of the agreement, the airport was declared a "special area" where Israeli authorities would retain overall responsibility for security in checking incoming and outgoing passengers and freight.

Israel's Ben Gurion International Airport outside Tel Aviv will handle air traffic control, said Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the coordinator of Israeli activities in the Palestinian territories.

Further negotiations on security arrangements are needed before Gaza airport can become fully operational, Mr. Dror said.

## UAE issues new rules for foreign banking units

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has issued new rules to regulate business by foreign banks seeking to open representative offices in the Gulf country, local newspapers have reported.

Bankers said there were no major changes in the

new law except that it defined the activities of such offices and the capital of the parent bank.

"The new rules bring no change to the UAE's financial policy but they streamline the business of those units," a bank manager said.

## DAILY BEAT

A review of news from the Arabic press

### Sixteen institutions officially launch mortgage refinance company

THE CENTRAL BANK of Jordan, the Social Security Corporation, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation and the Jordan Loan Guarantee Company have joined 12 banks in launching a new public shareholding company, capitalised at JD 5 million, to extend medium and long-term loans to licensed banks and financial companies, which are interested in lending to clients in the housing sector. The new company, called the Jordan Mortgage Refinance Company, will create funds by issuing medium and long-term bonds. To enable the company to start operations, negotiations were held with the World Bank to obtain a \$20 million credit that would be extended to the Central Bank which would extend its equivalent in dinars to the company to help it carry out funding housing transactions. The company's first board of directors comprises representatives of the Central Bank, the Social Security Corporation, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation, the Jordan Loan Guarantee Company, the Jordan Gulf Bank, the Cairo Amman Bank, the Jordan National Bank, the Arab Bank and the Housing Bank (Al Rai + Al Dstour + Al Aswaj).

### Fees for work permits will not be increased

THE FEES for work permits will not be increased as the Ministry of Labour has decided to continue imposing the same charges as before. This decision was taken after a lengthy meeting held at the Prime Ministry to discuss the new draft regulation which was to hike fees for issuing work permits to non-Jordanian labourers. Knowledgeable sources said despite an intention to amend the fees there were other contentious points relating to the regulation itself that prompted officials to opt for keeping the old regulation in force until the adjustment of the new legislation (Al Aswaj).

### Cabinet considering allowing imports of car chassis

THE COUNCIL of Ministers is currently discussing the possibility of lifting a ban on importing car chassis to Jordan to meet the demand of vehicle assembly and manufacturing companies which have started to register at the Ministry of Industry and Trade to commence operations. It is expected that the ban will be lifted soon on the strength of a recommendation from the minister of industry and trade (Al Aswaj).

## Financial Markets

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTH	6 MTH	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	5.18	5.31	5.43	5.87
Sterling Pound	5.50	5.50	5.56	5.87
Deutsche Mark	3.12	3.12	3.16	3.43
Swiss Franc	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.80
French Franc	3.50	3.62	3.68	3.90
Japanese Yen	0.31	0.38	0.54	0.88
European Currency Unit	4.31	4.31	4.31	4.50

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	384.75	7.80	Silver	5.18	0.103

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 25/6/1996

Currency	Old	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.2060	0.2100
Sterling Pound	1.0913	1.0958
Deutsche Mark	0.4622	0.4605
Swiss Franc	0.5606	0.5634
French Franc	0.1364	0.1371
Japanese Yen	0.6489	0.6517
Dutch Guilder	0.4124	0.4145
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira	0.0461	0.0463
Belgian Franc	*****	*****

Other Currencies Date: 25/6/1996

Currency	Old	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.5620	1.5780
Lebanese Lira	0.044525	0.045025
Saudi Riyal	0.1870	0.1895
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.5310	2.5672
Qatari Riyal	0.1937	0.1945
Egyptian Pound	0.5100	0.5200
Omani Riyal	1.8330	1.8412
UAE Dirham	0.1925	0.1933
Greek Drachma	0.2775	0.3065
Cypriot Pound	1.4785	1.5185

JORDANIAN FINANCIAL MARKET									
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SHORTLIST									
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 26/06/1996									
LAST 12 MONTHS LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P/E	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF TRADING	VALUE TRADED JD	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE	PERCENTAGE
250,000	205,000	ARAB BANK	12.0	1.59	3	70	27550	219.00	1.04
4,780	4,280	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
2,700	2,500	ABDULLAH BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
8,300	4,280	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
3,040	2,600	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
1,340	920	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
4,590	1,720	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
4,000	1,730	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
4,350	1,300	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
1,800	1,420	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
1,190	1,400	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
1,750	1,050	JOR. NATIONAL BANK	12.7	1.34	6	1169	4902	4.23	0.04
BANK SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 173.52 CHNG: +0.01 84 130176 189274									
1,600	1,300	UNITED INSURANCE	10.8	4.82	2	1380	3520	1.20	2.60
4,800	3,700	AMMAN AL-AMMAN	11.2	4.82	2	1380	3520	1.20	2.60
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 124.20 CHNG: +0.47 3 1550 4392									
1,900	1,810	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
2,500	1,190	POSTAL BANK	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
1,250	1,000	JORDAN TEL. PWR.	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
2,450	1,790	KCD. EAST BORDERS	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
3,660	3,090	ARAB TEL. PWR. EDUC.	12.5	6.25	4	1950	6138	3.12	5.15
1,500	1,500	JORD. TEL. PWR.	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
2,130	1,670	UNITED CO.	10.0	5.26	9	1900	3658	0.95	1.70
1,700	1,020	JORD. LAND DEV.	10.0	5.26	9	1900	3658	0.95	1.70
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 111.40 CHNG: 0.49 61 22800 34643									
1,260	1,170	ATTACHEES	8.8	0.06	3	2722	3403	1.25	0.01
3,980	3,270	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	18.8	3.08	11	2463	8212	3.29	3.38
4,960	4,790	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
12,580	8,900	JOR. PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
1,610	1,300	WOODEN INDUSTRIES	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
4,150	3,850	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
5,300	3,380	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
6,450	3,800	JOR. CEMENT	18.8	3.08	11	2463	8212	3.29	3.38
1,400	1,400	JOR. CEMENT	18.8	3.08	11	2463	8212	3.29	3.38
6,050	3,180	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
7,740	4,500	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	10.4	8.00	27	10200	15287	1.82	1.01
1,500	1,180	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
2,500	1,050	INTERFERED PETRO. CERN.	9	0.00	21	1100	11212	1.26	1.24
1,170	1,030	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
1,750	1,030	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
1,750	1,030	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
3,450	2,370	ORIENT. WOOD. IND.	7.0	0.70	26	7650	27186	1.37	2.30
2,250	1,280	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
1,800	1,000	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
1,500	1,190	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 109.54 CHNG: 0.46 234 108135 186427									
GRAND TOTAL INDEX: 141.04 CHNG: -0.20 382 262864 286726									
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 26/06/1996									
1,830	1,690	JOR. THAIK PAC.	18.1	0.00	10	16286	11091	1.49	0.45
1,480	1,050	JOR. THAIK PAC.	18.1	0.00	10	16286	11091	1.49	0.45
1,000	740	ORIENT. WOOD. IND.	7.0	0.70	26	7650	27186	1.37	2.30
1,240	630	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
1,650	1,340	JOR. WOODEN INDUST.	58.1	8.84	7	800	7440	9.09	9.05
1,060	630	ARAB PETROLEUM	16.0	3.77	6	1940	10335	5.22	5.30
1,920	1,380	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,160	590	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,100	700	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,120	830	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,130	800	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,100	630	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,850	1,100	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,030	680	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,070	560	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,520	860	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,050	480	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,020	460	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,070	660	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
1,400	630	WELL. CHEMICAL	8	0.00	2	300	295	0.59	0.59
GRAND TOTAL 115 125439 70452									
* New 12 months low									
* Stock dividend during the past 12 months									
* Listed during the past 12 months									
* P/E ratio 100 or more									
* Negative P/E									
* Setting a new or A/A for the most recent year									

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## Euro 96

## England favourites in today's semifinal showdown

MARLOW (R) — If current form is any guide England should shade a victory over Germany at Wembley on Wednesday and reach the European Championship final for the first time.

But so many other factors will have a bearing on the outcome that the semifinal could just as easily tilt Germany's way.

England-Germany matches always take place against a background of intense soccer and national rivalry with one side or the other looking to avenge a defeat or right a wrong.

England go into this match having won only two of their last 13 encounters against Germany and seeking revenge for their 1990 World Cup semifinal penalty shoot-out defeat.

Even though only three of Germany's likely team were born at the time of the 1966 World Cup final, no German can play at Wembley without wanting to avenge that particular loss.

As in local domestic league derbies, current form often counts for less than it might.

But Franz Beckenbauer, who played in the 1966 final, captained Germany to victory in the 1974 World Cup and coached them to victory in 1990, believes on current form England can win.

"Germany deserve to be

in the semifinals but the English team have really improved with their performances and in front of their own crowd they are probably the favourites," he said.

But although Germany have not shown anything like the passion and inspiration England have displayed at times during Euro 96, they always seem to peak at the right time in major tournaments.

To withstand intense pressure from Italy in last week's 0-0 draw and to overcome similar aggression from Croatia in their semifinal on Sunday proved again that even when Germany are not playing at their peak they are still good enough to see off most opponents.

Germany are almost certain to be without their key striker Juergen Klinsmann who suffered a calf injury against Croatia.

Klinsmann, well known by English fans following his season with Tottenham, is Germany's top scorer with three goals so far, and if, as the Germans claim, he does not play his absence will be a significant blow.

Klinsmann's strike partner Fredi Bobic is definitely out after X-rays revealed

that he had broken a small bone in his shoulder.

Manager Berti Vogts is likely to start with Stefan Kuntz in attack, probably supported by Andreas Moeller playing in front of a midfield comprising Mehmet Scholl, Thomas Hassler and the impressive Christian Ziege.

He must also decide whether there is a place in the starting line-up for Thomas Strunz, back after missing the Croatia match following his dismissal against Italy.

Eight Germans are a booking away from missing the final if they should beat England but that is hardly likely to temper their approach.

England manager Terry Venables has two key issues to decide concerning the defense and midfield.

Defender Gary Neville is suspended and midfielder Paul Ince is eligible after a one-match suspension.

Venables must decide whether to retain David Platt in midfield alongside Ince and Paul Gascoigne, or to drop Platt for Ince and replace Gary Neville at the back with his brother Philip.

**Wednesday's Euro 96 schedule on TV**  
 France-Czech R. 6 p.m. channel 2  
 Germany-England 9:30 p.m. channel 1

## Blazevic resigns after Croatian defeat

LONDON (AFP) — Croatian coach Miroslav Blazevic resigned Monday to become the first coaching casualty at Euro 96, Croatian television reported.

The 61-year-old coach, who led his side to the quarter-finals where they lost 2-1 to Germany on Sunday, decided to quit following criticism of his tactics.

"I obviously haven't succeeded, so I will leave this job to somebody else," Blazevic said.

Croatian media reports said Blazevic, who would have been deemed a national hero had Croatia managed to get through to a semifinal match against England, had allowed tension to develop in the Croatian dressing room.

They also criticised his late substitutions during the quarter-final, played at Old Trafford, Manchester.

Television reports said Blazevic had been abused by Croatian fans, who shouted at the coach and demanded his resignation. Croatia's attacking style of play won the side a lot of fans in England — notably for star player Davor Suker — even if the young team was seen as becoming overly physical in the German game, which was easily the ugliest match of the tournament.

The Croatian press Monday blamed the refereeing, even the attractiveness to the organizers of the championships of an England-Germany semi-final, as well as the team management for the defeat.

Before the competition, Blazevic had boasted his side would cause the "surprise of the century" following their impressive exploits in qualifying.

They had managed to finish ahead of World Cup runners-up Italy in their group, beating the Italians 2-1 in Sicily to great acclaim.

He was ambitious for Croatia to graduate from a talented footballing nation to a celebrated international performer.

"I hope that at last we will be proven as a soccer power," he said looking forward to the championships.

Though Croatia did become the first team to qualify for the quarter-finals, many criticised his sweeping changes in their loss to Portugal in their final pool game.

Blazevic was adamant that loss was not important as he preferred a clash with Germany than the Czech Republic, but fans and Croatian officials alike were not as impressed.

Then, against Germany, Croatia lost a lot of admirers which will have reflected badly on Blazevic.

The violence of the encounter made a mockery of UEFA's fair play initiative and raised a number of questions about the lenient Swedish referee Leif Sundell.

With a place in the last four at stake, the tensions got the better of the Croatians, in particular. It was a game littered with bad, often dangerous challenges, as well as a number of ugly off-the-ball incidents.

Many Croats, however, will not be surprised that Blazevic did not live up to his pre-tournament hype.

Blazevic used to coach Croatia in a joint partnership with Tomislav Ivic but earlier this year the two men split. Ivic had an argument with Blazevic, who was strongly supported by the Croatian FA. Ivic came out worst and was soon coaching in the United Arab Emirates.

The political manoeuvrings may have cost Croatia a good showing at Euro 96 as Ivic had a wealth of experience including spells in charge of some of Europe's greatest clubs — Ajax, Anderlecht, Paris Saint Germain, Marseille, Benfica, Porto, Real Madrid and Hajduk Split.

Some Croats have pointed out the team did particularly well when Ivic, and not Blazevic, was in charge.

## Italian League chiefs put squeeze on Sacchi

ROME (R) — Italy's League soccer chiefs have asked federation head Antonio Matarrese to stand aside and also to replace national team coach Arrigo Sacchi, newspaper reports reported Tuesday.

Serie A and B president Luciano Nizzola, Serie C boss Giancarlo Abete and amateur league chief Elio Giulivi met Matarrese at Giulivi's villa on Monday to discuss Italy's poor performance in Euro '96.

The trio made it clear they would back Nizzola for Matarrese's job when he comes up for re-election on August 6.

"Our intention is to start rebuilding the federation and we have identified Nizzola as the right person to do that," Giulivi told reporters after the five-hour meeting.

In exchange, the leagues were reported to have suggested that Matarrese, currently a vice-president of the European body UEFA, become honorary federation president with a special brief to represent Italy at international level.

Sacchi, meanwhile, appeared doomed with a consensus emerging behind under-21 coach Cesare Maldini. "We also talked of Sacchi and problems emerged," Giulivi said after the meeting.

"We all agreed that the federal council was the proper place to tackle the problem."

The Gazzetta dello Sport's inside headline summed up the meeting as: "The circle tightens around Sacchi. Abete, Nizzola and Giulivi don't want him anymore."



French coach Aime Jacquet conducts training at England's Old Trafford stadium. France will play the Czech Republic in semifinals of the 1996 European Soccer Championship today (Reuters photo)

## Czechs expect tough time against France

MANCHESTER (AFP) — Reduced Czechs will have a tough task cashing in against France in Wednesday's Euro 96 semifinal here with four suspended players.

Czech Republic players are on a \$100,000 bonus a man should they win through to Sunday's Wembley final against England or Germany. But key absentees are making their bank managers jump.

Coach Dusan Uhrin must completely reshape his side after German referee Helmut Krug booked Jan Suchoparek, Pavel Nuka and Radek Bejbl, before sending off Radek Latal for his second bookable offence against Portugal.

Karel Poborsky scored a spectacular goal for a 1-0 win but they played a high price for their best showing in a European Championships since Czechoslovakia finished third in 1980.

Krug's handling of the match may have been over-the-top but Uhrin would say only "I won't evaluate the referee's performance but clearly the suspensions will influence the semi-final."

Uhrin also has doubts over injured Jiri Nemec and flu-victim Patrik Berger. Pavel Nedved can return after suspension while Lubos Kubik will surely be recalled.

"When I saw France in their first match of the tournament I rated them as the best side here," said Uhrin.

"But two years ago we met them in Bordeaux and drew 2-2 after being 2-0 up with ten minutes to go."

The Czechs freely admit they have already exceeded

all their expectations and federation president Frantisek Chvalovsky went to the length of saying their progress was a huge blow for Euro 96 organisers.

"I don't think the organisers of the tournament can be happy we have reached the semifinals," he said.

"We are a negative attraction for them and I am sure old Trafford will not be a sell-out on Wednesday."

To make the final would be an incredible effort by the Czechs who won their qualifying group involving Holland and Norway despite a 1-0 defeat to Luxembourg and were written off by the bookmakers three weeks ago.

Following their 2-0 opening defeat by Germany, the Czechs were rated 150/1 to win the title.

France on paper have a golden opportunity to make the final.

Although the Czechs have excelled so far, their suspensions must surely be a major handicap leaving France well-placed to make their first final since 1984 when they won the title on home soil.

Coach Aime Jacquet will miss the industry of Christian Karembeu, who is suspended for not retreating 10 yards at a freekick in the quarter-final against Holland.

Jacquet is expected to bring in Auxerre midfielder Sabri Lamouchi, although centreback Alain Roche is a possibility meaning

Marcel Desailly would move into midfield.

Sabri's call-up has come as a surprise for the 24-year-old Auxerre player. "If you had talked to me about

playing in Euro 96 six months ago, I would have smiled," he said, adding nevertheless once here it was disappointing to be on the bench.

"I thought I might play against the Dutch. I warmed up for a long time and hoped to play because I thought I could bring something to that game."

But he did not have a major dream to play the final. "I know I'm only a replacement for Christian," he said.

Meanwhile Youri Djorkaeff will have family as well as national pride urging him on to set up a possible Euro 96 final showdown with England.

For while all of England wallows in nostalgia, fondly remembering 1966, the 28-year-old French striker has different reasons for winning through to Wembley on Sunday.

Youri's dad Jean left these islands with the rest of the French World Cup squad, bowed and broken 30 years ago.

England met their old adversaries in their third group match and won 2-0 to secure their passage into the next stage.

Jean played at right-back that day in the first of two defeats he suffered at Wembley. He was installed as captain two years later but the French side then suffered a 5-0 drubbing at England's hands.

Now Youri is hoping to lay those ghosts to rest on his father's behalf, providing of course that France overcome the Czech Republic.

## Atlanta wins mixed reviews after trials

ATLANTA (R) — Atlanta won mixed reviews on Monday after 10 days of competition at the stadium which will host the ceremonies and the athletics events of next month's Olympic games.

The U.S. track and field trials gave organisers, officials and volunteers a final shake-down before the world's greatest sporting event rolls into town during July 19 and August 4.

The verdict was inconclusive, showing that the Atlanta committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) has the potential for success in its grasp, but must still do a lot to iron out the kinks in its operation.

Athletes were keen on the track, which has been built to the most speed-producing specifications ever and just inside the legal limits of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

Michael Johnson was first to prove the potential of the track, shattering the 200 metres world record in a time of 19.66 seconds on Sunday.

"It's like the difference between driving a Volkswagen and a Ferrari," said John Smith, one of the world's top sprint coaches. "This is the Ferrari of tracks."

The downside was the pounding taken by tired legs on the track. The finish line at the end of some distance events sometimes resembled an emergency room, with medical staff treating athletes for muscle strain and heat exhaustion.

They also complained about the 10-minute bus ride between the stadium and the practice track.

With Atlanta wiling under scorching temperatures, athletes said the air-conditioned bus ride was making their muscles cramp.

Eight-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis questioned why organisers had not torn down a few more houses to put up a practice stadium next door to the main arena, as was the case in Barcelona.

Other groans from the athletes included the lack of shading from Georgia's fierce summer sun — this will be rectified for the games.

Away from the stadium,

other aspects needed to be tuned, according to spectators and journalists.

Atlanta's much-vaunted Olympic traffic plan, designed to keep the city moving during the games despite a lack of parking and gridlock, was taken through its paces.

Some shuttle users complained that a 10-minute ride would take up to 40 minutes because of the circuitous route.

The crowds at the 85,000-seater stadium were fairly sparse — the top day was Sunday with just over 30,000 — so the shuttle system did not have a full work-out.

Those who chose to drive to the stadium — this will not be an option during the Games — had a relatively easy job to find parking, but police and officials were clueless about directing cars to the lots.

Volunteers inside the stadium were the epitome of southern charm, but outside the venue, surly officials did not endear themselves to the public.

"The police department seems to have stationed their most short-tempered cops in the area. They appear to gloat in telling you what you can't do rather than how it can be made simpler," commented Furman Bisher, a local journalist.

The media were less than impressed by the "blandness" of the facilities and the inconvenience of working conditions. The results system had major teething problems, blamed on both technology and volunteers' lack of training.

The ascent from the interview room to the press box was a daunting 108 steps, with an insufficient number of elevators for those damned by the climb.

## Tour de France preview

## France expects win from Jalabert

PARIS (AFP) — France has not had a winner of the greatest cycle race in the world since Bernard Hinault in 1985 and this year the French expect Laurent Jalabert to end that Tour de France drought.

Jalabert, 27, rode a great race last year, winning a memorable 12th stage into Mendes after he and two of his once teammates — Australian Neil Stephens and Spaniard Melchior Mauri — had escaped 198km from the finish.

He finished fourth overall, winning the green jersey of the points winner as consolation, but this year his chances are better.

Although he suffered a knee injury in a fall during this year's Paris-Nice race, which he won, he came back strongly to win the Libre and performed well in the Dauphine.

He held the overall lead until the gruelling stage in the Alps where he and compatriot Richard Virenque finished ahead of five-time Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain and Tony Rominger.

Jalabert gave some cause for concern to his supporters when he retired on the final stage, citing exhaustion as the reason. But he then showed his form was not waning when he came out and won a minor race within a week of that retirement.

The world No.1 has faced greater challenges in the past, as when he suffered severe injuries on the first stage of the 1994 Tour de France. He collided with a policeman who was attempting to take a photograph of the final sprint into armentieres, leaving Jalabert nursing severe facial injuries and having to be drip fed for weeks because of a fractured jaw.

While Jalabert, or "Ja Ja" as he is known to his team, has gradually closed the gap on Indurain, reducing the amount of time he loses on time-trials and in the mountains, it is his team that is his main strength.

Manolo Saiz, the Once boss, admitted as much when he was asked whether the Swiss rider Alex Zülle or Jalabert could win the Tour.

"If they win it will be because of the Once team, we are the strongest and best unit. They are a super set of people," said Saiz.

Jalabert believes that to have a real chance of winning he must not fall into the trap of tracking Indurain throughout the race, as he says that is "the worst possible tactic".

Instead he says: "I will follow the moves rather than the players."

## Rominger has one last chance to win Tour

PARIS (R) — Tony Rominger, yet to beat Miguel Indurain in the Tour de France, believes this year's race starting on Saturday represents his last chance to defeat the three times winner.

"It will certainly be the last Tour I will be able to race at a high level and I hope I can play a part in it," said the 35-year-old Swiss.

Just as good as Indurain against the clock and in the mountains, Rominger has long been regarded as the man most capable of defeating the Spaniard in the world's greatest cycle race.

With three consecutive wins in the Tour of Spain from 1992 to 1994 and a triumph in the Giro last year, not to mention his world hour record, he has proved his all-round ability.

But Rominger has often been unlucky in the Tour, partly because of a respiratory infection which makes his life difficult when the weather is really hot. He came close only once, with a second place in 1993. In the following year he retired through exhaustion and last year he finished a disappointing eighth.

But while a new generation of riders such as Russian Yevgeny Berzin and Swiss Alex Zülle have not yet come of age, Rominger is still going strong and might give Indurain a hard time once again.

"It's sometimes difficult for me to find enough motivation to win," he said. "That's perhaps because I'm getting old. But obviously I would really love to win the Tour. It would be the greatest achievement of my career."

Rominger, renowned for his scientific approach to racing, has worked hard for this year's race with arduous training rides in the Alps and the Pyrenees.

<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p>John Travolta and Gene Hackman in</p> <p><b>Get Shorty</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>PERLA</b></p> <p>Eddie Murphy ....in</p> <p><b>The Distinguished Gentleman</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>CONCORD "1"</p> <p>Abu Al Dahab (Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p>CONCORD "2"</p> <p>The Bridges of Madison County</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 8:15</p> <p>*NELL</p> <p>Shows: 6:15, 10:30</p>	<p>Immagine Theatre &amp; Cinema</p> <p>Will shortly present Zawad Weld Awad theatre group in a play entitled</p> <p><b>Five-Star Government</b></p> <p>Starring comedians: Mahmoud Saimeh &amp; Hussein Tubeishat</p>	<p>Nash &amp; Hisham's Theatre</p> <p>PRESENTS</p> <p><b>THE SATIRICAL COMEDY Arab Human Rights</b></p> <p>at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call 625155 - 640155</p>
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## Cardinals end Smoltz' 14-game run

ATLANTA (R) — Brian Jordan homered and drove in six runs to power the St. Louis Cardinals to an 9-2 victory over the Atlanta Braves, ending John Smoltz's 14-game winning streak on Monday.

The Cardinals jumped on Smoltz from the start when former Brave Ron Gant hit Smoltz's first pitch over the center-field fence for his eighth homer. Smoltz allowed consecutive singles to Ozzie Smith and Ray Lankford before walking Gary Gaetti. Jordan followed with a two-run single to give the Cardinals a 3-0 lead after the first inning.

Smoltz (14-2) allowed eight runs and 10 hits in 6 1/3 innings.

In Cincinnati, Mark Portung scattered four hits for his first shutout in more than two years and Willie Greene and Bret Boone each homered and drove in two runs as the Cincinnati Reds ripped the Philadelphia Phillies 7-0.

Philadelphia has lost 14 of its last 17 games.

In Florida, Jeff Conine hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning and John Burkett and three relievers combined on a four-hitter as the Florida Marlins handed the San Francisco Giants their fourth straight loss 2-1.

Burkett (5-7) allowed one run and three hits over seven innings, walking three and striking out seven.

Al Leiter limited the Marlins to two runs and two hits in seven innings, but suffered his first loss in five starts.

In Montreal, Henry Rodriguez hit a two-run double in a nine-run second inning and homered twice as the Montreal Expos pounded the Pittsburgh Pirates 11-3.

Rodriguez, hit, his 24th and 25th homers to move into a tie for the Major League lead with Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs, Brady Anderson of the Baltimore Orioles and Albert Belle of the Cleveland Indians.

In New York, Jeff Kent's leadoff homer snapped an eighth-inning tie and Jason Irlinghaus pitched out of trouble repeatedly over eight innings as the New York Mets edged the Colorado Rockies 2-1.

Kent lined a 1-1 fastball from reliever Darren Holmes (2-3) over the fence in left-center for his ninth homer. Kent has hit in nine straight games and is batting .351.

### Sox, Angels split double header

The Chicago White Sox and the California Angels split a doubleheader on Monday, with the Sox taking the first game 4-2 and the Angels coming back to

win the second game 6-4. In the first game, Darren Lewis' two-out, two-run single in the bottom of the eighth inning capped a four-run rally to propel the Sox to the victory in the opener.

The Sox had trailed 2-0 entering the eighth inning.

In the nightcap, Ryan Hancock allowed two runs over five innings in his first Major-League start and J.T. Snow and Tim Salmon hit three-run homers to give the Angels a split for the night.

Hancock allowed five hits and four walks as the Angels won for the sixth time in their last nine games.

At Minnesota, Rich Robertson tossed an eight-hitter for his second shutout of the season as the Minnesota Twins posted a 3-0 shutout of the New York Yankees, snapping their season-high five-game winning streak.

Robertson (3-8) walked three and struck out four for the Twins, who were coming off a weekend sweep by the Detroit Tigers.

In Oakland, Mark McGwire hit a two-run homer to spark a four-run first and John Wasdin allowed four hits over seven innings as the Oakland Athletics snapped the Detroit Tigers' three-game winning streak with a 4-2 victory.

The Tigers had split their last 16 games after losing 46 of their first 59.

At Texas, Cal Ripken homered and drove in two runs and Mike Devereaux delivered a pinch two-run single in a five-run sixth inning as the Baltimore Orioles defeated the Texas Rangers 8-3.

"I don't get too analytical at the plate, I just try to get and stay in a zone as long as I can," Ripken said.

After homering just once in his first 48 games, Ripken has hit 14 in his last 24 contests.

## World, MLS squads named for FIFA All-Star Game

NEW YORK (R) — Forward Romario of World Cup champions Brazil and 1995 World Player of the Year George Weah of Liberia headline a squad of players named for the FIFA World All-Star Game, soccer officials announced Monday.

The team, which will be coached by Denmark's Richard Moller-Nielsen, will meet the Brazilian national team at Giants Stadium on July 14 as part of a double bill, along with the first Major League Soccer (MLS) All-Star Game.

The world stars were selected by FIFA, soccer's international governing body.

The elite world team also features Colombian goalkeeper Rene Higuita, French defender Marcel Desailly, German defender Lothar Matthaus, English midfielder Paul Ince, Danish forward Michael Laudrup and Ghanaian forward Abedi Pele.

German striker Juergen Klinsmann was named to the team, but is considered doubtful due to a torn calf muscle he suffered in Germany's 2-1 quarter-final victory over Croatia Sunday in the European Championship in England.

A couple of athletes will be doing double duty.

Flamboyant Mexican goalkeeper Jorge Campos, who plays for the Los Angeles Galaxy of the MLS, and U.S. national team captain John Harkes, a midfielder with D.C. United, were selected to the world team and the MLS All-Stars.

The MLS All-Star game will precede the FIFA match as New York-area soccer fans enjoy a double showcase of international and home grown soccer talent.

## Graf wins opener, Agassi crashes out

WIMBLEDON (AP) — Steffi Graf, showing no signs of the knee injury which has troubled her, opened her bid for a seventh Wimbledon title Tuesday with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Ludmila Richterova.

The top-seeded defending champion started slowly on Centre Court but lifted her game toward the end of the first set and cruised to victory in 53 minutes.

Graf said she was not bothered by the swollen tendon in her left knee, an injury which forced her to pull out of the Wimbledon warmup tournament in Eastbourne. She had asked for her opening Wimbledon match to be postponed until Wednesday but was turned down.

"I practiced for two hours yesterday morning and it was gone," Graf said. "On Sunday afternoon, I wasn't too sure about it, but I really forced it yesterday and it didn't come back."

Graf's only problem Tuesday was with her backhand service return, which she missed repeatedly during the match. One of the few which she made was on match point.

Richterova, a 5-foot-11 (1.80 m) Czech ranked 75th in the world, held her own in the early going with a solid serve-and-volley game.

"She's a tall girl, looks very athletic and she is," Graf said. "I expected her to serve well. I didn't have a lot of practice. I'm lacking match play. You could see that a little today. That's why it took me a little while to get into the match."

Also advancing Tuesday was fourth-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who beat Italy's Adriana Panatta 6-3, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded Anke Huber beat Spain's Gala Leon Garcia 6-1, 6-1, and No. 11 Brenda Schultz-McCarthy was a 6-0, 6-3 winner over Joannette Kruger.

In men's play, ninth-seeded Thomas Enqvist of Sweden swept to a 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 win over Canada's Albert Chang. Chang was a lucky loser who replaced injured Alex O'Brien, suffering from a sprained right shoulder.

Marc Rosset, the 14th seed, dropped the first set but downed Scott Draper 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-1.

In other featured matches, fifth-seeded French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov faced Britain's Tim Henman. And No. 10 Michael Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon champion who lost to Kafelnikov in the French Open final, was up against Sien Schalken.

On Monday, Andre Agassi's miserable year hit a low point when he lost in the first round to Doug Flach, a qualifier ranked 281st in the world.

"At some stage you've got to put things in perspective and say, you know, OK, let's just start working on getting it better, getting my game better," the third-seeded Agassi said unconvincedly after the 2-6, 7-6 (7-1), 6-4, 7-6 (8-6) defeat.

Agassi could start by seriously preparing for Grand Slam tournaments for a change. He wrote off the clay-court season and promptly lost in the second round of the French Open to journeyman Chris Woodruff.

Agassi didn't play any grass-court events before Wimbledon, and it showed against Flach. It was only his fifth match — on any surface — in the last three months.

"I probably stayed away from playing for too long, and then the disappointment kept me from really attacking the needs of my game after the French," Agassi said.

In 1992, Agassi came to Wimbledon without any grass-court preparation and won the tournament. He



Number three seed Andre Agassi of the U.S. bows his head as he leaves court after losing his first round match against compatriot Doug Flach at the Wimbledon tennis championships. Flach won the match 2-6 7-6 6-4 7-6 (Reuters photo)

admits that he probably can't do that any more.

"You start getting older, your body starts feeling different after tough matches," he said. "I think a lot of things change. That certainly can be one of them."

Agassi's lack of commitment contrasted with all the hard work Flach has put in. He's played 10 events this year on the satellite circuit and he won three qualifying matches to get into the Wimbledon draw, coming

from two sets down to beat Anders Jarryd in the final round of qualifying.

"I've played a lot of tennis in the past couple of months," Flach said. "I think that probably was part of the reason why I won today. I was really match tough."

Agassi was one of four men's seeds eliminated on the opening day, joining No. 6 Michael Chang, No. 8 Jim Courier and No. 15 Arnaud Boetsch.

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## Canada Day

Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein, the Canadian Embassy will be celebrating its National Day on Sunday, 30 June 1996, from 4:00 to 9:00 pm in the Queen Noor Forest located in the Yajuz area. Canadian citizens in Jordan are invited to attend a tree planting ceremony and barbecue all accompanied by live music.

Canadians interested in attending should bring their passport to be presented at the Queen Noor Forest access gate. A map and information sheet is available at the Embassy, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Sunday to Thursday.

## Fête du Canada

Sous le parrainage de Sa Majesté la Reine Noor Al Hussein, l'Ambassade du Canada célébrera sa fête nationale dimanche le 30 juin 1996 de 16h00 à 21h00. Pour célébrer cette journée, les citoyens canadiens résidant en Jordanie sont invités à se joindre à nous dans la forêt de la Reine située dans la région de Yajuz, lors d'une cérémonie où de nouveaux arbres seront plantés. Les activités comprendront également un barbecue, et le tout se déroulera au son d'un groupe de musiciens.

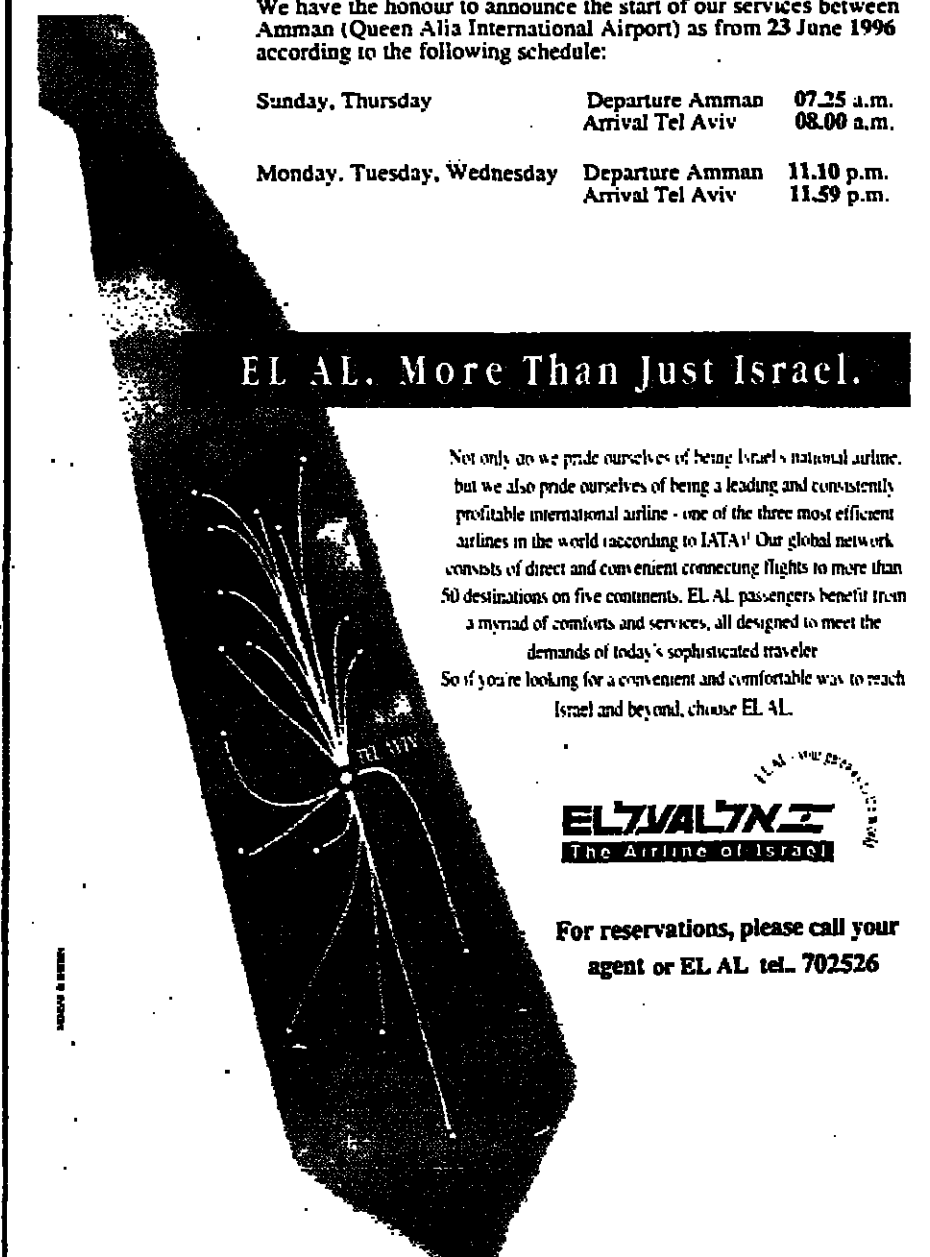
Les canadiens intéressés à participer à cette fête sont priés d'apporter leur passeport avec eux. Des renseignements supplémentaires ainsi qu'un plan sont disponibles à l'ambassade, du dimanche au jeudi de 09h00 à 16h00.

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Israel's new defence minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, totting an M-16 assault rifle, on his first visit to Israeli occupation zone in South Lebanon since taking office on Tuesday (Reuters photo)

## Mordechai: Israel will stay in Lebanon

TYRE (AFP) — Israel is determined to maintain its army presence in the border strip it occupies in South Lebanon, new Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai vowed Tuesday on his first tour of the zone.

But he offered that if the Lebanese government succeeded in halting attacks by Hizbollah guerrillas in South Lebanon then they could hold round-table talks.

Mr. Mordechai was the first Israeli leader to visit the self-declared "security zone" since the election of Israel's new right-wing government on May 29.

The visit went ahead amid tight security as he visited Dabshon on the edge of the central sector of the zone where five Israeli soldiers were killed and eight wounded in a Hizbollah attack on June 10.

He also toured the Israeli army headquarters in Marjayoun where he met with officers from Israel's proxy militia the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

"Israel will remain in the security zone to protect its

Lebanese allies and to ensure Israel's security," he said in a statement broadcast in Arabic by the SLA radio.

"If the Lebanese government proves that it is capable of banning attacks by pro-Iranian militias we are considering organising a round table to deal with the situation in southern Lebanon," he added.

The previous Labour-led Israeli government had offered to draw up a timetable for a withdrawal from South Lebanon if there was a halt to all attacks in the zone for three to six months.

Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres launched Operation Grapes of Wrath against Hizbollah guerrillas in Lebanon in April to stop rocket attacks on northern Israel.

More than 170 people, mostly civilians were killed in the 17-day war before a ceasefire under which both sides agreed to spare civilians. However, Hizbollah attacks have continued sporadically in the zone.

## Human tide expected at Papandreou funeral

ATHENS (AFP) — More than half a million Greeks and foreign leaders are expected to attend the state funeral Wednesday of Andreas Papandreou, the founder of Greek socialism who died at the weekend, aged 77.

"We are expecting a veritable human tide of at least 500,000 people, because Andreas Papandreou was a symbol for the Greek people," a government source told AFP.

Among the mourners will be some 50 foreign leaders, including Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, and even Turkey, Greece's traditional arch enemy, will be represented by its Foreign Minister Emre Gönensay.

Coaches, trains, and boats have been chartered to transport thousands of mourners to pay their last respects to the former prime minister who died on Sunday of heart failure after

a long illness.

Athens will grind to a halt as the Acropolis, public services, the stock exchange, museums and shops suspend business. The Greek worker's confederation which has some 600,000 members has called for work to be halted throughout the ceremonies which begin at 1000 GMT and continue until the early evening.

The French and U.S. embassies as well as those of several other countries will remain closed.

Frantic preparations were underway Tuesday to attempt to ensure nothing disturbs the solemn progress of Wednesday's ceremonial which is the first of its kind since the funeral of King Paul of Greece in 1963.

Some 4,500 police officers will maintain tight security as foreign leaders arrive at Athens airport.

With heat-wave temperatures of 37 degrees Celsius (99 degrees Fahrenheit) forecast, four medical units and 10 ambulances will stand by along the route of the funeral cortege from the cathedral to Athens' historic cemetery.

Outside the cathedral, where crowds continued to throng Tuesday to pay their respects to Mr. Papandreou as he lay in state, teams of workmen were hurrying to erect stands for journalists and foreign officials.

Among the foreign leaders expected to attend were the Cypriot leadership, prime ministers from Albania, Bulgaria and Slovenia, and foreign ministers from Germany and Iran.

Portugal will be represented by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Jose Lamego

and Algeria by the chairman of the legislative body the national transition council,

Abdul Kader Bensalah, officials said.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, Secretary of Russian Vice-Prime Minister Vitaly Ignashenko, and British Defence Secretary Michael Portillo will attend.

Socialist leaders, including International Socialist Chairman Pierre Mauroy, the European Parliament's socialist leader Pauline Green, and the leaders of socialist parties in France, Germany and Spain, will also mourn the passing of Mr. Papandreou who founded modern Greek socialism.

He was prime minister from 1981 until 1989 and again from 1993 until he was obliged to step down in January following protracted illness.

His death nevertheless came as a surprise as his health appeared to have stabilised since March, when

he left hospital following a four-month stay prompted by pneumonia and respiratory and kidney problems.

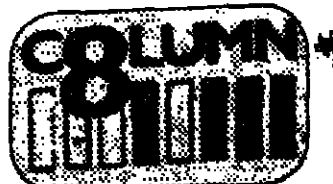
The cathedral doors will be closed from 0300 GMT, when 32 officers from the army, navy and air force will form a guard of honour around the coffin, draped in the national flag.

At 1130 GMT, the funeral ceremonies will begin with a religious service lasting nearly three hours, before the funeral procession begins.

As the cortege passes in front of the parliament, 21 cannon shots will be fired, and four F-16 fighter planes will fly over the city.

Mr. Papandreou's burial will be accompanied by further salutes and four mirages will fly overhead.

He will be buried next to his father, former centrist Prime Minister George Papandreou.



Actress Irene Papas robbed in Naples

NAPLES, Italy (AFP) — Greek actress Irene Papas was robbed of a \$6,000 watch by a thief who snatched it from her wrist as she was walking with two friends in central Naples, police said Monday. Papas is currently appearing at the San Carlo Theatre in the city. The theft took place Sunday and police said the so-called "Roxas Gang" had also stolen four other valuable watches from Italian tourists in Naples over the weekend. Police said they would ask Papas to try to identify the thief from photographs of people known to specialise in such attacks.

## Copperfield ready to work his magic in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AFP) — Magician David Copperfield, the man who walked through the Great Wall of China, says he has been asked to perform at next year's celebrations for Hong Kong's handover to Chinese rule. The American, who is to perform in Hong Kong this month, was tight-lipped on who had made the offer, but is known to have got on well with his Chinese hosts during a visit earlier this year.

"I have been approached to perform during the handover ceremony," Copperfield told reporters, without elaborating. A Hong Kong government official said plans for the ceremonies for the British territory's return to Chinese rule on July 1 next year were still in the early stages. China and Britain have so far been unable to agree on a list of events, with the main sticking point being the role of Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten, persona non grata to Beijing.

Copperfield is travelling with his parents, but not girlfriend and supermodel Claudia Schiffer. He was similarly tightlipped on the prospect of a wedding.

## Japan hosts symposium on bullying

TOKYO (AFP) — Some 300 Japanese school teachers and education board members got together with foreign experts here Monday to discuss ways to solve a problem considered a national urgency — rampant bullying among children.

The international symposium under the auspices of the Japanese Education Ministry opened with a report by Dan Olweus from the University of Bergen in Norway who said many parents and teachers failed to notice bullying at school. Experts from Britain, the Netherlands and Australia took part in the symposium. Bullying has become a serious problem at Japanese schools, with some cases leading to suicide.

## China to show Toy Story

BEIJING (AFP) — The first computer generated cartoon feature film Toy Story is to be shown in China next month, newspapers reported Friday. It will be the second Disney blockbuster aimed at the young Chinese audience following the huge success of The Lion King in 1995. The dubbing and distribution of the film will be handled by the Shanghai Film and Television Group. Toy Story is one of a dozen foreign films, mainly American, which China has imported annually since 1994. On Monday, in concluding a copyright agreement with U.S. negotiators, China agreed to import more American films and to step up joint productions with Hollywood studios.

## Israel demands Egyptian answer on missile reports

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy called on Egypt Tuesday to respond to reports it had purchased surface-to-surface missiles capable of reaching Israel.

"Egypt must provide answers on this affair, which took place behind the back of the United States despite the fact that Cairo receives almost as much military and civilian aid from Washington as Israel," Mr. Levy said in a radio interview.

The Washington Times newspaper, quoting a report from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA),

reported Friday that North Korea had supplied Egypt with seven shipments of parts for Scud C missiles in March and April.

The Haaretz newspaper said David Levy, director general of Israel's defence ministry, was to discuss the issue with CIA chief John Deutch in Paris on Monday.

Defence and American embassy officials said they could not confirm the report. Haaretz said the acquisition of the Scuds would be a threat if a radical Islamic government took over in Egypt or the peace process collapsed.

Egypt has long led criticism in the Arab World of Israel's nuclear weapons programme. At a summit in Cairo earlier this week, Arab leaders called on Israel to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and join in freeing the region of weapons of mass destruction.

Israel is believed to be the only Middle East nation with nuclear weapons, although both Iraq and Iran are believed to have sought such capability.

If confirmed, the Scud shipments would be in violation of a 1990 antiproliferation law and could lead to the imposition of U.S. economic sanctions against Cairo, which is the second biggest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel.

The U.S. State Department said Friday it was taking the report seriously but had not decided whether to apply sanctions.

Mr. Levy said he would raise the issue in talks here later Tuesday with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is then due to visit Cairo Wednesday for a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"Anyone who wants to give advice and wants, like U.S., to promote negotiations (on peace) must prove

that peace remains their guide," Mr. Levy said.

Israeli military experts said the Scud C has a range of 500 kilometres, enough to reach Israel.

"It is obvious that these surface-to-surface missiles will not be used against Libya or Sudan, but against Israel if the situation deteriorates," military commentator Zeev Shiff said.

He said information reaching Israel was that parts for Scud missile launchers had been bought by Egypt in Eastern Europe and shipped via North Korea.

## Pressure builds on Karadzic as election date is confirmed

PALE (AFP) — Massive pressure built-up Tuesday on Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to step down as a Sept. 14 date was set for Bosnians to go to the polls to make a start in healing their shattered country.

A senior Serb official hinted that Mr. Karadzic was about to step down while rump Yugoslavia, according to the Tanjug agency, called on the Serb parliament to name an "immediate replacement" for Mr. Karadzic as an interim measure.

Momcilo Krajisnik, considered to be the closest of Mr. Karadzic's small inner circle of advisers, said after meeting international envoy Carl Bildt that the Bosnian Serb "president" would be ready to step down from office if it was in the interest of the Serb people.

Mr. Bildt, speaking alongside Mr. Karadzic, said he had threatened the reimposition of international sanctions against the Serbs if Mr. Karadzic was not removed.

Mr. Krajisnik complained about the growing pressure and said the Serb leadership was "doing what it can to find a compromise."

Mr. Karadzic has maintained his grasp on power despite a stipulation in the Dayton peace accords that he, as an indicted war crimes suspect, should play no role

in the country's future.

His presence has been a looming threat to the holding of the elections, seen as an essential first step to reconciliation after nearly four years of conflict that shattered the country's pluralist and multi-ethnic traditions.

Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) chief Flavio Conti, announcing in Vienna that elections would take place in mid-September, cited the presence of "war criminals (who) remain on the loose, occupying positions of power and either directly or indirectly exercising political influence" — a clear reference to Mr. Karadzic and Ranko Mladic, his military henchman — as one of the factors opposing the holding of free and fair elections.

However, there was "no convincing alternative to the holding of elections," Mr. Conti said, "not (as) an end in themselves" but as "a first small step in the long process of reconciliation and democratisation." The Serbs have long defended Mr. Karadzic but Mr. Krajisnik said the self-styled president "would certainly be ready to sacrifice his office and above all his power if that was in the interest of the (Serb) people."

On Monday another Karadzic associate, Aleksa Buha, dismissed a Western report citing Serb sources

which said Mr. Karadzic might resign in the coming days.

A senior Bosnian official in Sarajevo played down the resignation hints as "nothing new" and said Mr. Karadzic was "just trying to save his skin."

Meanwhile, ending weeks of speculation, the OSCE announced that Bosnia's 3.2 million voters will on Sept. 14 be called on to create a three-member Bosnian presidency, a national parliament, parliaments for the Muslim-Croat and Serb entities that make up the Bosnian republic, along with various lower-level authorities.

Addressing the organisation's general council, Mr. Conti admitted that the minimum conditions for holding free and fair elections — as stipulated by Dayton — "have not been fulfilled, in spite of some small progress."

Only 70,000 of the estimated two million refugees and displaced persons have returned to their homes and "ethnic cleansing is being continued on a local level."

The influence of nationalist groups in the three communities remained predominant. He conceded that the "politically neutral climate" specified as necessary under the Dayton accords did not exist, but defended the decision to go ahead.

## Egypt tells U.N. Qadhafi took Cairo by surprise

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has told the U.N. Security Council that Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi took them by surprise when he floated U.N. sanctions by flying direct to an Arab summit in Cairo, an official Egyptian source said on Tuesday.

"He had sent a number of vehicles all the way to Cairo so the assumption was he was coming by car. And we weren't about to shoot him down," said the source, who asked not be named.

Asked why Egypt did not stop Colonel Qadhafi flying home in the same way, the source said this was a political decision linked to the fact that Col. Qadhafi was attending an Arab summit.

"But we didn't authorise or encourage the flights," he added.

Lawyers said Egypt could argue that as a head of state Col. Qadhafi had immunity and that the Egyptian authorities could not impound the Libyan Arab Airlines plane which brought him.

On Monday the United States asked for a report to the U.N. Security Council on why Col. Qadhafi was able to float the sanctions, which ban all flights into or out of Libya unless a U.N. committee gives special clearance.

The council's current president, Nabil Al Araby of Egypt, said he would ask his government for an explanation.

U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright told reporters. But the official source in Cairo said Egypt had already informed the United Nations of the circumstances surrounding the flights. "For U.S. the case is closed," he added.

It was the third time Libya has defied the sanctions, imposed in 1992 because Tripoli refused to extradite to Britain or the United States two men accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over Scotland in 1988, killing 270 people.

Both this year and last, Libya sent token flights to the Saudi city of Jeddah with Muslim pilgrims. It argues that the United Nations does not have the right to prevent Muslims carrying out a religious duty.

The Egyptian authorities say they told the pilgrim flights to leave Egyptian airspace but the pilots ignored them.

Egypt has close relations with Libya, despite their different attitudes to Israel and Middle East peace.

U.S. rightwing lobbyists have repeatedly urged Washington to take a tougher line on the Libyan-Egyptian relationship.

## Clinton: U.S. elections have no impact on peace process

The following interview with U.S. President Bill Clinton appeared in the London-based Arabic daily Al Sharq Al Awsat this week. It was conducted on behalf of the newspaper by Daphne Barak in Washington last week:

QUESTION: What sort of commitments do you, Mr. President, expect from Mr. Netanyahu, and what will you tell him in your upcoming meeting?

ANSWER: This will be our first chance to hear from Prime Minister Netanyahu his perspective on both U.S.-Israeli bilateral relations and the Middle East peace process. Obviously, we want to know how he

sees the evolution of both of these important relationships. In this regard, I was pleased by the tone Prime Minister Netanyahu struck in the guidelines of the new government and in our conversation after the election last month.

I strongly believe that a comprehensive peace is in the best interests of the United States, Israel and all of the people of the Middle East. I am very proud of the tremendous progress that we and our partners in Israel and the Arab World have been able to achieve towards this goal over the last three and a half years. I remain committed to helping force such a peace.

Q: Do you expect that the American presidential election campaign may divert your attention from the peace process in the Middle East, and that this process may not regain vigor until after the elections?

A: The short answer is "no." There are two important reasons for this. First, the momentum of the peace process ultimately will be determined not by the United States, but by the parties themselves. The United States has played a variety of different roles at different times in our capacity as facilitator of the process. On occasion, we have helped to move the process along by helping to identify and overcome obstacles. However, the progress itself was a product of the willingness of the

parties to find ways to work out their differences and bring peace to their people. A new Israeli government obviously means new personalities with new perspectives. But, if both sides continue to demonstrate a real commitment to a just and enduring peace, ultimately that will be the key to success in the negotiations.

Second, I remain committed to doing everything we can to help the cause of peace in the Middle East. The United States will seek to assist this transition and to help build the new relationships. The pursuit of a comprehensive Middle East peace remains a top priority for my administration and for me personally.

Q: With regard to the

Middle East peace process, are you satisfied with what it has achieved so far? And if the answer is yes, do you feel that all the parties concerned have done what was expected of them?

A: The past three years have witnessed unprecedented progress toward a lasting, secure, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The signing of the Declaration of Principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation in 1993, the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty signed in 1994, the signing of the interim agreement in 1995, the repudiation of the clauses of the Palestinian Covenant calling for the destruction of the

(Continued on page 7)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iran in talks over visits to Iraq shrines

TEHRAN (AFP) — Tehran is negotiating with Baghdad to allow Iranian pilgrims to visit Shiite Muslim shrines in Iraq, an Iranian minister said Tuesday. Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Khorram said the two sides had reached a "preliminary understanding, but no definite agreement" on the issue. He said if an accord was agreed, families of those killed during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war would be the first to be allowed to visit the shrines located in the Iraqi cities of Karbala, Najaf and Kazemine. Iranian Culture Minister Mostafa Mirsalim said this week that a road and a motel had been built in the border town of Mehran in Ilam province to facilitate trips to Iraq by pilgrims. Last week, an Iranian newspaper published an advertisement for pilgrimage tours to Iraq.

### Euro-court sentences France on Somalis

STRASBOURG (R) — The European Court of Human Rights on Tuesday ordered France to reimburse court expenses to a family of Somali asylum seekers held in airport detention for 20 days without sufficient access to lawyers. The court, however, denied a request by the Ammur family that France pay them further compensation. The family, linked to the former Somali regime of ex-president Mohammad Siad Barre, fled their country for Syria in January 1991 when Barre was overthrown. The court was told they fled to Paris without required documents in March 1992 and immediately sought political asylum. French authorities detained the four members of the family in an airport hotel for 20 days before deporting them back to Syria. There they lodged a complaint against France with the European court, on grounds they were held too long and without sufficient legal assistance.

### Brotherhood members plead innocent

CAIRO (AP) — Thirteen Muslim Brotherhood members entered pleas of innocent in a military court on Tuesday to charges they engaged in anti-government activities. One defendant, Mahdi Akel, who is 72, told the court: "One of the charges is working to stop the constitution. Why should we? The constitution says the Koran is the main source of legislation and Islam is the main religion. We, as Muslim brothers, are the first to protect the constitution." Some defendants without lawyers said they did not want the court to appoint any. But the chief judge, Wagdi Al-Laithy, insisted, and five lawyers were named. The trial was adjourned to June 29. The trial, which began June 15, marks the fourth time that members of Egypt's largest Islamic group have faced a military court during the government's 18-month campaign against the group. The Muslim Brotherhood is technically outlawed, but for years it operated openly because it was considered too powerful and too popular to suppress.